

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, June 8, 1989

Published Since 1877

## Students plant seeds at Ocean City beach

The Baptist Student Union at the University of Southern Mississippi sent a short-term mission team to Ocean City, Md., from May 9-11. The trip was initiated by USM BSUer Ethan McCarty who served as a summer missionary in Ocean City three summers ago.

The 17-member team worked with home missionary, Lynn Davis, who is responsible for campus and resort ministry in the area, and her husband, Terry, pastor of the Ocean City Baptist Church.

One block from the Atlantic Ocean beach, the church provides housing in its annex to mission teams for a nominal fee. Beginning as a mission chapel in 1958, the church now has an extensive ministry of sponsoring mission teams all through the summer, providing resort ministries for summer workers and tourists, and starting mission churches.

Their goal is to start five by the year 2000; one is already going. Another dream is to establish a year-round retreat center in their community.

The USM BSU team helped the church by cleaning up in the construction area where Sunday School classrooms are being added, doing yard work, and leading a youth fellowship on Friday evening.

One aspect of the resort work relates to Frontier Town, a tourist



Pictured are Sharla Buckels (left) and Ann Tullos standing outside the Frontier Town chapel, at Ocean City, Md.

area which has a chapel on its western street. The church is allowed to have a service in the chapel each Sunday of the summer season if it is done "western style." The preacher, in cowboy hat and string tie, rides in on a horse to deliver a sermon similar to ones the circuit riding preachers used. The BSU team spent two days cleaning up the chapel — painting, planting flowers, cutting the grass — in order to prepare it for summer use. The "saloon" building was also

cleaned up in order to be used for a western barbeque for the Baptist Student Ministries at Salisbury State and the University of Maryland — Eastern Shore. Part of the mission work included leading BSU meetings at the two campuses and planning the program for the barbeque, held in honor of the BSU seniors.

The USM BSU mission team planted spiritual seeds in the lives of some of the workers at Frontier Town, and with some college students who are in Ocean City for summer work. An awareness of resort missions was also gained by the team — the need for creative ways to minister and the need for prayer support and generous giving to home missions.

USM BSU mission team members included: Melissa Carte, Long Beach; Richard Herring, Jackson; Ethan McCarty, Soso; Mrs. Jeanette McCarty (Ethan's mother who volunteered to go along and cook for the team!); Soso; Tracey Harris, Vicksburg; Sharla Buckels, Lafayette, La.; Adam Calvert, Ashland; Regell Gray, Philadelphia; Ginny Warren, Sandy Hook; Stacy Jackson, Forest; Renee Dennis, Hattiesburg; Jennifer Pittman, Brandon; Stacy Broadwater, Cleveland; Terri Adams, Hattiesburg; James Milner, Lena; Ann Tullos, Columbia; and Marilyn Bedford, USM, BSU Director.

## Mississippians take enrollment training to the Royal Gorge

As a result of an enrollment/training clinic in the Colorado mountains led primarily by Mississippians most participating churches now have begun a regular outreach visitation program.

This is according to leaders of the Royal Gorge Association near Colorado Springs. Two of the churches have 6 p.m. Sunday services with visitation afterwards, discovering that most people are actually at home on Sunday nights.

Mountain View Church, La Veta, discovered 101 prospects — that's one out of two homes visited. And First Southern Church, Pueblo, discovered 98 prospects, a ratio of one per 4.3 homes visited in the immediate vicinity of their church.

With prospects already in files, plus new people located, the churches involved now have names and addresses of 1,420 people who can be enrolled in Sunday School.

New classes have been started or proposed in several churches with at least two professions of faith recorded. A new Sunday School is being started at Agape Mission in Pueblo and follow-up work is planned.

This was the third time the Southern Baptist Convention is being held in the Royal Gorge area. The first was in 1964 and the second in 1978. The 1989 convention is being held in the Royal Gorge area, which has resulted in a

group of Mississippi pastors planning to lead in the April 1990 "Here's Hope" revivals in Colorado.

The 23 Mississippians worked along with volunteers from Louisiana, Kansas, Texas, and Colorado in the training. The project was coordinated by Keith Williams of the Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department.

Said Williams, "From the visiting I

did, working with an Hispanic mission in a strongly Catholic area, I discovered people were very open to our being there. For instance, we prayed with a man on his doorstep about his having surgery the next day. I feel there was more accomplished per church than any similar program I've ever been involved in. It was exciting."



Pictured from left are: Peggy Hathcock, Winona; David Hulsey, Kosciusko; Charles Gordon, Ackerman; Dennis Duvall, Philadelphia; Dale Sauls, Richland; Karen Warren, Brandon; Tony Kinton, Carthage; Susan Kinton, Carthage; Randy Johnson, Vancleave; Eva Cain, Yazoo City; Ralph Cain, Yazoo City; Steve Glass, Southaven; Edith Caillouet, Houma, LA; Kathryn Waites, Hattiesburg; Mark Lott, Hattiesburg; P. J. Scott, Olive Branch; Betty Scott, Olive Branch; Mike Benefield, Pontotoc; Pam Jones, Oxford; Mike Jones, Oxford; Jerry Smith, Florence; Keith Williams, Clinton; Keith Wilkinson, Brandon; and Lee Hudson, Carthage.



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## Itawamba team hands out "chaplain's capsules"

By Wayne Vandiver

Eleven students and the Baptist Student Union Director from Itawamba Community College travelled to Shreveport, La., for their Spring Break mission trip, March 11-18. They went to help Grawood Baptist Church, Westwood Baptist Mission, and the chaplains of LSU Med-Center.

Sherie King, Houston; Ginger Payne, Nettleton; and Charlotte Dill, Mantachie served at the hospital as chaplains. They had opportunity to visit several people each day. The LSU-Med-Center is a regional charity hospital, so they met people from all over the mid-south. One of the "neat" ideas they used was handing out "chaplain's capsules" to the patients. This capsule contains a rolled-

up slip of paper with a scripture verse on it.

All the verses focused on trusting the Lord.

One of the highlights of the week for these girls was attending a Catholic mass led by the assistant chaplain. BSU director Wayne Vandiver also had an interesting hospital experience. He got to preach at the Sunday service in the psychiatric ward. It was rather bizarre. One woman wanted to preach in his place, a man mumbled through the whole service, and another smirked at him the whole time. Other than that, it was a good service!

The other group of students and Vandiver helped Grawood and Westwood by doing construction work; community surveys; and leading in youth fellowships, worship services, and a lock-in. The students on this team were: Christy Farrar, Verona; Shonne Henry, Mooreville; Tricia Babb, Plantersville; Pam Vandiver, Corinth; Quinn Wilson, Amory; Keith Ramage, Houston; and Jimmy Francis, Saltillo. This group did everything from mudding sheet rock to walking several miles to find out who lived in these communities.

The lock-in team assignment was to lead in games, Bible studies, and a worship service. They had more than 200 youths at a health club that was really too small to accommodate such a crowd. These youths came from eight local churches. Some of these young people were disrespectful. As the team led in the worship service, many of these youths talked all the way through it.

However, all was not lost. They saw an 18 year old guy named John give his heart to Jesus after that service! It just goes to show the Spirit can do his work in the worst of circumstances!

This was the third time the Southern Baptist Convention is being held in the Royal Gorge area. The first was in 1964 and the second in 1978. The 1989 convention is being held in the Royal Gorge area, which has resulted in a



The Itawamba mission team, from left, front row: Tricia Babb, Sherie King, Pam Vandiver, Christy Farrar, Shonne Henry; second row: Charlotte Dill, Ginger Payne, Quinn Wilson; back row: Wayne Vandiver, Shane Brandon, Jimmy Francis, and Keith Ramage.



# Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

## An era ends

An unmistakable era in Mississippi Baptist life will come to an end June 10 when Ralph Noonkester retires as president of William Carey College. He will be 65 years of age on that date.

Noonkester has completed 33 years as president of William Carey. Very likely, that is the longest tenure of any U.S. college president. Before that he was a faculty member and dean for four years, so he has served the Mississippi Baptist institution for 37 years. Very few will match that record. One who might match and even surpass that mark is the Baptist Record's Anne McWilliams, who has been with the paper for 36 years and is young enough to add several more. Noonkester was only 28 years of age when he joined the Carey faculty. He became president at 32.

The era that is coming to a close began in 1956. Noonkester has seen many changes during those years. Particularly he has seen the student body increase from 124 girls when he first joined the faculty in 1952 to the present total of 1,400 full-time equivalent coeducational students. When he became president in 1956 the

budget was \$200,000. Today it is \$6.3 million.

There have been more such accomplishments. Not the least of these is the fact that William Carey became the first Southern Baptist college in the South to become integrated when it took that step in 1966.

Noonkester is to be applauded for leading the college through turbulent times in the past. The college has enjoyed outstanding growth under his leadership.

Two days before Noonkester's retirement date a dinner will be held in Hattiesburg that will be both an occasion to climax the 1989 fund-raising effort and an occasion to honor Noonkester on his retirement.

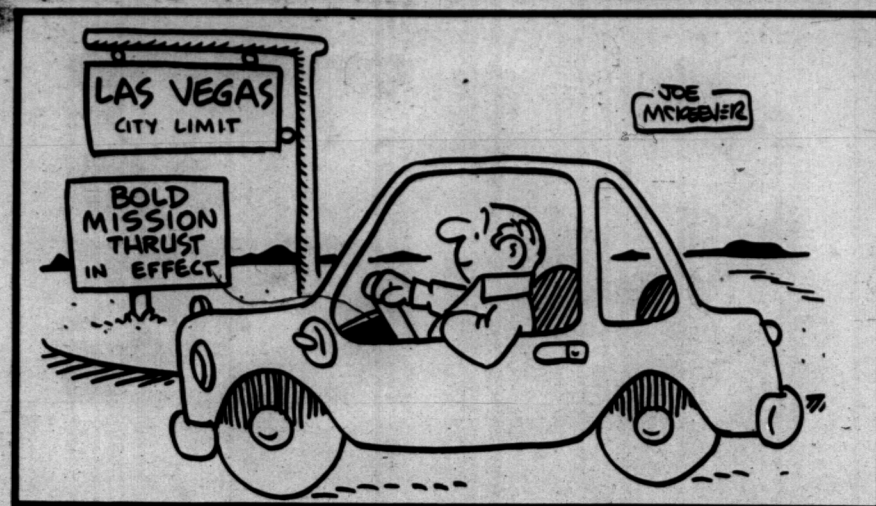
Though anxiety and budget woes marked the last few months of Noonkester's tenure, he is to be remembered for the many years in which he led the college in such an admirable fashion as is to be noted in a review of the accomplishments. He is known throughout the nation as an outstanding college administrator. As he leaves the helm of William Carey College to be taken over by someone else, we must remember him and honor him for what he has seen ac-

complished during a long and outstanding tenure as president of the college.

Observers in Christian education in Mississippi who have been on the scene for sometime point out that there was a time when it was only the force of Noonkester's personality that kept William Carey College afloat. The college has made it through some tough years because of his leadership, and it may be poised on the brink of its greatest ministry. He should be remembered for his contribution to its future.

And we must continue to support the college. Ralph Noonkester brought it to a position of outstanding service during his presidency. It has been the nurturing base of many pastors, missionaries, and others who have given their lives to the service of the Kingdom. But it is not Noonkester's college. He will be gone, but the college must go on in its role of preparing students for Christian living and service.

William Carey College needs to be aware that its future of service to the Kingdom and to Mississippi Baptists is secure.



## Baptist beliefs . . .

### Security of the believer (IV)

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"After that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the [full] redemption of the purchased possession." — Ephesians 1:13b-14.

In my judgment this is the greatest statement about the security of the believer. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would indwell every believer in him. His presence in you is God's "seal." "Were sealed" renders a verb used of sealing a letter. If it arrived with the seal unbroken, the recipient knew that the message was exactly what the sender had written. It was used also for branding animals; slaves; and even at times, soldiers. Thus the indwelling of the Spirit is God's seal of ownership and of his guarantee of safe delivery of the believer in heaven.

"Earnest" means earnest money or a guarantee. It appears only three times in the New Testament, always in connection with the Holy Spirit (see also 2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5). "Redemption" translates a word meaning "a full-redemption" (regeneration, sanctification, glorification).

If you agree to buy a piece of property, you put up earnest money as

your guarantee to go through with the transaction. If so, it applies on the purchase price. If you do not, you lose your earnest money.

God's Holy Spirit indwelling you is God's earnest money, his guarantee to save you and keep you saved. If ever one soul believes in Jesus and is lost again, God would not have gone through with the transaction. So he would lose his earnest money. What is his earnest money? The Holy Spirit. Who is the Holy Spirit? God himself. So he has put up his very being as his guarantee. If one saved soul is lost again, God would cease to be — an impossibility. So long as God is — and he is eternal — so long is the soul of the believer saved and safe! You can ask for no greater guarantee.

In the papyri, one use of this word is for the engagement ring which the prospective bridegroom put on the finger of his bride-to-be as his guarantee to go through with the wedding. So the indwelling Spirit is the engagement ring which Christ has put on the finger of his bride, looking toward the marriage feast of the Lamb!

Herschel Hobbs is pastor emeritus of First Church, Oklahoma City.

prayer put back in the schools and start trying to get it back in the homes and the churches. Each day that I taught, I prayed without asking permission from anyone. I only needed God's permission.

It has been an honor to be a minister of the Gospel for 43 years. God has been so good to me, and I praise his holy name.

In the early years, when I had no church, I preached on the streets of our cities, in communities where there were no churches, and in jails and have worked in factories and used the money to buy radio time. I would say to young preachers today, if you don't have a place to preach, go out and make a place. God will bless you.

God has let me see drunks get sober, gamblers stop gambling, and prostitutes tell their men friends not to come back. Some of these have become preachers and preacher's wives, Sunday School teachers, and just down-to-earth good people. God

has let me have fruit from almost every nation in the world.

In 1953 I witnessed more than 400 come to Christ in Osaka, Japan. In 1978 I went to the office of Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado and found that the secretary to the dean was a Japanese girl that I had led to the Lord in 1953. In 1957, Mitsuo Fuchida, the Japanese pilot who led the attack on Pearl Harbor, was a guest in the church that I pastored in Aurora, Ill., and testified that he had become a Christian after reading the Bible. None of this was done by trying to prove anything.

God has, in these 43 years of service, allowed me to be involved in giving birth to 30 or more missions and churches. Thank you Jesus for being so good. That is all the proof I need.

It is my prayer that the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention will show the people of Las Vegas that we truly love each other and all of the people for whom Christ died.

William T. Irwin is pastor of Calvary Church, Holly Springs.

## Guest opinion . . .

### Where have all the Baptists gone?

By William T. Irwin

Our beloved professor, the late Dr. Gaines S. Dobbins, used to say, "The purest democracy on the face of the earth is a Baptist Church." The idea of democracy has always made my head lift a little higher and my chest expand a little larger.

It made me sad that our Southern Baptist messengers in convention even considered voting on the resolution concerning the Priesthood of Believers. If a vote made any difference, then I surely don't understand what I understand the Bible to teach about the priesthood. In simple language, I understand it to mean that the believer (priest) is God's representative to man and man's representative to God. I have always believed that when I was saved, God gave me that responsibility; therefore, I do not need the convention to vote me that right. Since it was God who gave it to me, the convention cannot take it away.

The Priesthood of Believers has nothing to do with Pastoral Authority. As a Baptist it has been my understanding that the authority is with the congregation; therefore, the pastor has as much or as little as the congregation votes to give to him. I would hope this would be under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, and this would be true of any other member of the congregation. The congregation

has the right to discipline its members, and should in the spirit of love.

We cannot prove that every word in the Bible is true, nor can any prove that it is not true; however, with all of my heart, I believe every thing that the Bible teaches but not every thing that some say that it teaches.

We cannot prove that God is, and no one can prove that there is no God. I can testify that I have seen the lives of thousands changed by the telling the simple story of the love of God the Father, the atonement in the death of Jesus Christ, and the enabling power of the Holy Spirit. This was not done by trying to prove anything.

I do not believe that having women serve as pastors or deacons is within the teaching of the Bible; however, each church must study the Bible for itself and not go by what I believe or the messengers of the convention believe. If women and the churches have different beliefs than the things that I believe, they should try to find the will of God; for it is to God that they must answer for their action. I also must answer to God.

We each should remember that the congregation, the association, and the convention, have the right to withdraw fellowship if they feel that it is not good for us to remain in the fellowship. God will be the Judge.

To make democracy work is a task that is often slow and cumbersome, but to do less is to short circuit the good of all. It seems to me that there should be less appointing officers and committees and more nominating and voting within the church, the association, and the convention. As we struggle and have our patience tried, we are developing leaders and are allowing the grass roots membership to be heard and to grow.

It seems to me that the cause of our Lord would be better served if each church were allowed only two messengers to the convention, the pastor and one layman, without regards to size of the church or amount given as long as each was giving; and if we encouraged our convention to try having meetings at central locations. If this were done, the savings on convention expenses would provide enough money to enable millions of dollars to be sent to pastoral aid and expand our mission growth.

Regardless of what group is leading, there will be trouble if the people in the pew are not heard. Every agency and institution must remember that the people have a right to be heard and respected.

As one who has taught at the secondary school and college level, I would hope that we would stop trying to get

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Alton and Cathy James



Michael and Pamela Jones

## Foreign Board appoints five from Mississippi

Five people with Mississippi ties have been appointed missionaries of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. They will be serving in Uruguay, Benin, and in Asia.



Paula Smith

Paula G. Smith, a Greenwood native, will live in Uruguay where she will be promoting Woman's Missionary Union work. Since 1985 she has been minister of education at First Church, Water Valley.

She is the daughter of Pauline Smith of North Carrollton and the late Martin Smith who was a Baptist minister.

She is a graduate of Clarke College and William Carey College. She earned the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Seminary.

Miss Smith has been minister of education and youth at First Church, Flowood; minister of youth at North Carrollton Church; and was a Baptist Student Union summer missionary in Israel and in Massachusetts.

Michael and Pamela Jones will live in Benin where he will be promoting religious education. Since 1986 he has

been minister of education at First Church, Oxford.

He is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo., and earned the master of arts in religious education degree from Southwestern Seminary. He has been minister of education and music at Valley View Church, Longview, Tex., and at University Church, Denton, Tex.

Mrs. Jones is the former Pamela Holloway and a graduate of Southwest Baptist University.

The Joneses have two children: Benjamin Lloyd, born in 1983, and Kyle Wade, 1987.

Alton and Cathy James were named Cooperative Services International representatives. They will live in Asia where their skills in starting and developing churches will be available. James is a graduate of Blue Mountain College in Mississippi and earned a master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary where he is currently working on a doctor of theology degree.

The Jameses have two children: Emily Michelle, born in 1980, and Angela Marie, 1984.

Miss Smith and the Joneses will go in June to the missionary learning center in Rockville, Va., for a seven week orientation. The Jameses will go in November.

# Missionsfest will deliver a taste of foreign missions

Mississippi Baptists will get a taste of foreign missions in September when Missionsfest comes to Jackson. R. Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will be in Jackson Sept. 8-9 with a group of foreign missionaries to talk about what God is doing overseas. Missionsfest takes place at First Church, Jackson.

The program includes testimonies and prayer needs from foreign missionaries, information on opportunities for service, personal discus-

sion time with missionaries, and a film festival of current movies about foreign missions.

The program begins at 5:30 on Friday evening, Sept. 8, with a dinner and dialogue with Parks. After dinner will be a missions rally. The next morning Parks will speak and there will be a series of conferences and dialogues. The program concludes Saturday evening with a commissioning service.

The conferences include "How Do You Do Missions Overseas," a

discussion of missionary family life, an introduction to print and audiovisual resources on foreign missions, a discussion of overseas opportunities, and a talk on how foreign missions is funded through the Cooperative Program.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Foreign Mission Board are cosponsoring the program. Registration information may be obtained from the MBCB's executive director's office at Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

The Second Front Page

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## Students give \$1,000,000 for BSU summer missions

By Weaver McCracken

The 1989 Student Summer Missions Program has crossed the one million dollar mark in total funds contributed (1947-1989) to the State Student Missions Fund. This milestone represents 42 years of Mississippi Baptist Student Union commitment to the cause of missions and the involvement of nearly 1,200 student missionaries.

Baptist Student Union summer missions in Mississippi began in 1947 with the appointment of one student to serve as a member of the first national BSU mission team. Mississippi BSUs gave their share of the \$542.42 required to send a Blue Mountain student as a part of that first team. The remainder was given by Louisiana students.

From a simple beginning, the summer missions program grew slowly at first. Between 1947 and 1966, 135 students served and \$66,629.11 was raised to send them. While the state program averaged nearly seven students each summer during these first 20 years, as many as 15 were sent out in any one year. By 1977, 431 had been appointed and had served either in home or foreign mission positions. In the last 10 years, 1979-1988, 627

students have served through the Mississippi BSU summer missions program. With an ever-increasing commitment to the program, both the numbers of student volunteers and financial program support increased. Money received during this period totaled \$675,256.77. Funds were raised through student projects and the sacrificial giving of thousands of students, over and above local church gifts.

The 1989 summer term of service will see 79 students serving in seven foreign countries, 25 states and in the District of Columbia. This is the largest number of Mississippi BSU summer missionaries ever commissioned. Eighteen students will be serving overseas while 61 will serve in the United States. All summer missionaries work under the supervision of either the Home or Foreign Mission Board. Local Baptist Student Unions, providing financing of more than \$90,000, will support and send these students this summer.

In 1987, Scott Vaughn, the one thousandth Mississippi summer missionary was appointed and served in South Korea. Scott, now a student at

New Orleans Seminary, acknowledges that it was while serving as a summer missionary that he experienced his call into full-time Christian ministry which led him on to seminary and preparation for service.

Among the many students who have served are Don and Anne Dent, who are now career missionaries to Indonesia. Don acknowledges, "Summer missions was the instrument God used to redirect my life. During my initial summer missions experience in Oklahoma I first sensed God calling me to career foreign missions; he later reaffirmed that call through a second summer experience in Malaysia.

"In the process," says Dent, "I also learned to be a careful steward of missions resources; because we worked hard to raise money for summer missions, and then I had the responsibility to decide how some of it was spent."

Dent remembers the year he served on the state student missions committee and the impact summer missions had on that group. More than half of the students on that committee (Continued from page 4)

## Americans in China: status in question

By Erich Bridges

BEIJING (BP)—The killing of hundreds of Chinese citizens by the military in Beijing has thrown the city into turmoil, and could cause even more violence when news of the tragedy spreads across China, according to sources in China and Hong Kong.

At least 45 Southern Baptists teach or study at Chinese universities under the sponsorship of Cooperative Services International, including two in Beijing — Jay Templeton and Jana Clayton — students at Second Foreign Language Institute.

Templeton and Clayton witnessed tanks rolling by the institute late June 5, as angry students continued to set up barriers of burning buses and trucks to stop soldiers' movements.

Efforts by Baptist Press to reach the two Americans June 5 were unsuccessful, but Templeton talked by

phone to his parents, Southern Baptist missionaries Logan and Lounette Templeton, in Hong Kong.

"I just talked to Jay, and he said they're in contact with the American consulate," Mrs. Templeton reported. "The consulate felt like they were in a low-danger area where they are. So they're not planning to evacuate right now. We've told them maybe he and Jana should just come on home, because they're not going to be able to take their classes anyway. But he said they couldn't even get to the airport. Taxis and buses aren't running."

French students at the institute already have been evacuated, the two Southern Baptist students reported, and Australians have been taken to their consulate.

"A lot of Americans are there, some teachers and students too," Mrs. Templeton said. "They go out to the (Continued from page 4)

## Pastor is shot, no hope given, is up walking in three days

By Tim Nicholas

The doctors had given him no hope. But a Rankin County pastor, shot in the head the evening of May 24, was out of intensive care within 30 hours, was up walking in three days, and is continuing to improve, according to his wife.

Roy Clark, pastor of Lake Harbor Baptist Church in Brandon, opened his door the evening of May 24 to the estranged husband of a woman Clark was counseling. According to police,

the man, James Hudgens, pulled a 45 caliber pistol and fired point blank at Clark.

Hudgens, according to police, fled as Clark's wife Carol and their two children began screaming. Hudgens was later arrested and was being held for aggravated assault on \$1 million bond.

Carol Clark said that her husband, a registered Emergency Medical

Technician and member of the Lake Harbor Volunteer Fire Department, threw up his hands when he saw he was about to be shot.

The bullet went through the front of his right hand, out the palm, through the left wrist, shattering his watch, and into the lower cerebral area of the head.

Reconstructive surgery was done (Continued from page 4)



# Executive Committee to vote on whether to hear Moyers

By Dan Martin

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (BP) — During its June 12 meeting, the Southern Baptist Executive Committee will vote on whether to invite television journalist Bill Moyers to discuss his documentary, "The Battle for the Bible," before it airs in September.

Moyers requested an appearance before the 76-member committee at its June meeting after a resolution critical of his three-part series on religion and secular politics was adopted at the committee's February meeting.

The Executive Committee, by a 40-14 vote, adopted a resolution proposed by Paul Pressler, a Texas appeals court judge and one of the architects of the conservative movement in the Southern Baptist Convention, which called the Moyers documentary "biased" and expressed concern about the use of federal tax dollars to air the series on public television.

Following the action, Moyers sent a telegram to Pressler, with a copy to

Charles Sullivan, pastor of First Church, Lenoir City, Tenn., and chairman of the Executive Committee, which referred to Pressler's "spurious accusations," and requested an appearance by both men before the June 12 Executive Committee session to "compare notes, take questions and discuss these matters in a Christian manner."

Sullivan told Baptist Press in May he had denied Moyers' request for an appearance in June because "We can't give up an hour and a half for a debate and still get our business done."

Sullivan added he would present Moyers' request to the full body "for them to decide about extending an invitation" for a discussion of the matter in September.

Baptist Press was unable to contact Moyers, but during an encore broadcast of "The Battle for the Bible," Moyers said he had been informed no time was available before the Executive Committee and charged the

group is "now controlled by fundamentalists."

The show was aired by the Public Broadcasting Service May 21 and shown in many places on that day. Other PBS stations, however, have scheduled the show for presentation at other times.

Pressler said he was aware the matter will not be discussed in June, and said: "I will go with him (Moyers) before the Executive Committee at any time the Executive Committee schedules. I welcome the opportunity and think it should be discussed before the Executive Committee."

"The public has a right to know whether the program was fair or not."

"The fact he has rescheduled the program right before the annual meeting gives validity to the concern that we have expressed that it is being used to support one faction in an intradenominational conflict. Otherwise, it would have been shown after the convention rather than before."

Dan Martin is BP news editor.

## Archaeologists unearth arrow dating from time of Jeremiah

HAIFA, Israel (EP) — An arrow dating from the time that the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah was rebuking the people of Israel for "bending their tongues like their bows for lies," has been recovered almost intact, according to a report in The Jerusalem Post.

Excavators from California State University and the University of Haifa unearthed the 2,600-year-old arrow in one of the caves at Qumran in the Judean Desert. It dates from the time of the First Temple period. The 75-centimeter shaft still bears traces of black and white painted decorations and the slit in which the stabiliz-

ing feathers were inserted. The shaft is joined to a 7-centimeter iron head.

The arrow survived down through the millennia due to the very dry climate in the area, according to Yosef Patrich of Hebrew University's Institute of Archaeology. The researchers also unearthed items from the Second Temple era including stone tools, an iron arrowhead, a nail, and potsherds.

The caves of Qumran are also the site where the famous Dead Sea Scrolls were found and where archaeologists recently unearthed a pot still bearing oil that dated to biblical times.

## Students give \$1,000,000 to BSU summer missions

(Continued from page 3)

tee are now involved in career full-time missions with either the Home or Foreign Missions Boards.

Countless churchmen and church staff have had their view of ministry and missions influenced by summer missions. Ed Hamilton, a Jackson businessman, tells that the experience had a lasting effect on both his life and attitude toward missions. This has led to his involvement in a missions-minded church and numerous mission trips over the past 20 years.

In becoming aware of the needs of missions churches, some have felt led to return to pioneer areas to make their homes, build their careers, and become a part of everyday missions in the life of a mission church. Jean-

nette Herring, an electrical engineer in Loveland, Colo., says that summer missions not only taught her to rely more completely on God, but it also gave her a "true love for churches in mission areas."

Countless others have spoken of how their view of the world was drastically changed as they served in distant places, helped build churches, and shared their faith. Summer missions has served as the blacksmith shop of faith for those college students who have taken this path of service. It has provided experiences and a challenging opportunity for the individual to work out a deeper personal faith on the anvil of his own heart.

Weaver McCracken is associate director, Student Work Department, MCB.

## SBC will be televised on BTN

The live, gavel-to-gavel coverage of the 1989 Southern Baptist Convention in Las Vegas, June 13-15, will be televised on BTN. This is the fifth consecutive year the convention has been shown. Listed below are many of the sites reported to the Broadcast Services Department, along with times of coverage.

The signal from BTN will be unscrambled for the SBC telecast so anyone who has a dish can pick it up. BTN is on Spacenet I Satellite, 120 degrees South, channel 21.

### Place and Time Available

Calvary, Belmont — entire convention; Calvary, Tupelo — 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Calvary, West Point — 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Central, Brookhaven — 8:30 a.m.-noon and night sessions; Centreville, Centreville — 9 a.m.-1

p.m.; Covington-Jeff Davis Assoc. — entire convention; Crowder, Crowder — entire convention; First, Amory — entire convention; First, Byhalia — 8:30 a.m.-closing; First, Brandon — 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; First, Bude — entire convention; First, Carthage — 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; First, Gulfport — entire convention; First, Hattiesburg — entire convention; First, Hazlehurst — 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; First, Holly Springs — 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; First, Kosciusko — entire convention; First, Lambert — entire convention; First, Louisville — entire convention; First, Lucedale — 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; First, Magee — entire convention; First, Mendenhall — entire convention; First, New Albany — entire convention; First, Pascagoula — 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; First, Philadelphia —

8 a.m.-5 p.m.; First, Picayune — 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; First, Plantersville — 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; First, Purvis — 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; First, Vancleave — 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; First, Water Valley — entire convention; Golden Triangle Bapt. Mission — entire convention; Harrisburg, Tupelo — 8:25 a.m.-5 p.m.; Lauderdale Assoc., Meridian — entire convention; MCBC, Jackson — 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Oakhurst, Clarksdale — 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Pearl River Assoc., Carriere — 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Pike Assoc., McComb — entire convention; Temple, Hattiesburg — entire convention; Washington Assoc., Greenville — entire convention; West Jackson Str., Tupelo — 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Wade, Pascagoula — 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; White Oak, Magee — entire convention.

## Pastor shot, no hope given, up walking in three days

(Continued from page 3)

on; his right hand Friday and he entered Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson Monday for rehabilitation.

A minute after the shooting, said Mrs. Clark, help was on the scene. The Clarks live next door to a drug rehabilitation center. Three patients — a neurologist and two anesthesiologists — arrived and "saved his life" keeping him going until emergency equipment could arrive only moments later from the Lake Harbor Volunteer Fire Department.

That night, the University Medical Center opened its lobby to about 25 to 30 church members and friends who spent the night there in prayer. "The doctors gave us no hope," said Mrs. Clark. "When we prayed about the situation the Lord changed it. They told us his left hand would sustain nerve damage because of the wound and now they're not going to have to rehabilitate it."

She said that the suspect never asked her husband what he had said to

the man's wife. Roy "wanted to get him some help. He needed some chemical dependency help. My husband does not advocate divorce."

A court order served an hour before the shooting evicting Hudgens from his home was based on a complaint filed by Hudgens wife Patricia. She claimed her husband drank heavily and beat her.

Mrs. Clark told the Baptist Record her husband wants people to know that "Pastors come under fire so many times and the people don't believe them. We hate it that it takes something this disastrous or traumatic to call our attention to it."

She said that the family had received more than a thousand calls. "Tell people to continue to pray," she said.

"I couldn't be more pleased with how the Lord has dealt with us. We are not bitter and we don't want to be bitter," said Mrs. Clark. "You look back in the Bible and see many of God's servants have been abused and mistreated and they give God the glory. That's what Roy wants to do."

## April receipts third best in history

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention's combined ministry budget continued its roller coaster ride in April.

The SBC Cooperative Program received \$13,293,877 in April, a gain of 33.2 percent over April 1988, reported Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the convention's Executive Committee.

"For the first time this year, I am going to venture a projection of Cooperative Program receipts," Bennett said. "It is an optimistic forecast."

"If the trend continues—which I expect — I believe we will receive approximately \$140 million. This would mean that we would reach the basic budget goal of \$137.61 million and have more than \$2 million for capital needs. I would be greatly pleased."

The April receipts were the third-best monthly total in the Cooperative Program's 64-year history. They were almost \$4 million more than March receipts, which were among the worst in the past five years.

## Americans in China: status in question

(Continued from page 3)

edge of the campus and watch the tanks and the military convoys move through. The Chinese students on the campus are just enraged. They're so angry and defiant, throwing bricks. At this point, they don't seem to care what happens to them.

"But Jay doesn't think they (the military) will come there. There's a whole string of universities on that street. He said the army did come in (to one of the other university campuses) and open fire there, and students were killed there last night," June 4.

Information from other cities remained sketchy. Reports said troops were moving into Shanghai, and rumors reaching Hong Kong June 5 indicated military forces also had entered Chengdu and surrounded Nanjing.

"Most CSI personnel in China have been contacted by CSI in Hong Kong," Cooperative Services International Director Lewis Myers said. "Some of the personnel have called directly and talked to relatives here in the U.S. They don't seem to be in immediate physical danger, but the situation is very stressful and volatile. Communications and transportation in many of the major cities are difficult if not impossible. This has a domino effect on the whole system."

"We're praying that they not only will be safe physically, but that this will give them the opportunity to live out the Christian life in the face of difficulty and perhaps be a positive witness to their students and faculty around them. We don't have plans to dramatically alter our program in

China. Our personnel go there in response to requests from China. As long as those requests come, we will continue to send personnel."

Travel agents in Hong Kong said June 5 that all group tours into China had been cancelled, although individual travel to nearby Guangzhou (Canton) was still being permitted.

CSI officials are monitoring the situation through sources in China, Hong Kong and the U.S. State Department, they said.

The State Department has issued a new warning against travel to China because the situation is "very dangerous and potentially volatile" nationwide, a spokesman said June 5. The spokesman did not say what action would be recommended for Americans already in China.

"This is not an anti-foreign movement. The teachers should be OK," stressed CSI's Britt Towery in Hong Kong. Any danger lies in the potential violence which could engulf the nation as Chinese learn of the Beijing killings, he said. Currently, most Chinese across the nation are not aware of what has happened in Beijing.

Chinese Christians have issued no further statements since Protestant Bishop Ding Guangxun publicly supported student demonstrators in May and praised Protestant seminary students who participated in democracy marches in Nanjing.

At least 90 percent of the student body at the national Protestant seminary in Nanjing marched in support of democracy, according to reports.

Erich Bridges writes for the Foreign Mission Board.



Thursday, June 8, 1989

# Weslea Calhoun wins speakers' contest

Weslea Calhoun of Puckett Baptist Church, Rankin Association, was the 1989 winner of the Youth Speakers' Tournament conducted by the Church Training Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Weslea's parents are Keith and Linda Calhoun of Puckett. Weslea is a senior in high school.

Her speech was entitled "A Call To Serve." The judges received the manuscripts one week prior to the State Tournament. Fifty percent of the speech was judged on content while 50 percent was judged on delivery.

Other youth speakers in this year's State Tournament were: Rob Smith,

Winston Association; Dawn Pittman, Hinds-Madison; Carla Shirley, Lauderdale Association; and Jimmy Bullock, Jackson Association. Each of the speakers is required to speak in their church tournament and an associational tournament before entering the State Youth Speakers' Tournament.

Weslea will represent Mississippi at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, July 15-21, during the Church Training Leadership Conference.

Rob, Dawn, Carla, and Jimmy are invited to participate in the Church Training Leadership Conference at Gulfshore Assembly July 13-15. Judges for the tournament were selected teachers, drama leaders, and speakers who have excelled in speech communication.

Speaker's Tournament leaflets for 1990 will be available in September 1989. Contact the Church Training Department for more information.

## Marriage enrichment retreats scheduled

Three Marriage Enrichment retreats are scheduled in August in Jackson, near Louisville, and at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

The first, limited to 35 couples, will be held at the Baptist Building in Jackson, Aug. 4-5, beginning with supper at 6 p.m., concluding the next day at 3.

Carl Dickerson, pastor of Magnolia Church, Laurel, will be leader. Cost will be \$45 per couple including two meals, conference fee, and materials. Twenty complimentary rooms will be available at the Admiral Benbow Motel.

The second event will take place Aug. 11-12 at Lake Tiak O'Khata Resort near Louisville, beginning with supper at 6 p.m., concluding at 3 that next day. Cost is \$55 per couple which

includes three meals, conference fee, and materials. Rooms are free but limited to 25 couples. Carl Dickerson will lead this conference.

The third retreat will be at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, Aug. 25-26 in the same time frame. This meeting, limited to 40 couples, costs \$35 per couple. Again, rooms are free. Leaders will be Carl Dickerson and George F. Lee, director of missions from Columbia.

Couples may register by sending a \$20 non-refundable fee to Family Ministry, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205 with the balance due by July 24. J. Clark Hensley, family ministry contract consultant with the MBCB, said the fee is non-refundable because of the free housing. No provision is being made for children.

## Church Missions Development: Gulfshore — July 10-12

The Church Missions Development Conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly will take place July 10-12 at the Pass Christian facility. The conference shares space with three others: Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries, Weekday Ministries, and Stewardship.

The missions development program will provide an overview of organization and program with "how to" experiences. It will explain resource sources and offer training in work with other church programs. It is aimed at the missions committee chairman, church missions director, survey director, and project directors. Associational leadership is expected to bring church leaders and to train in local churches on return home.

Featured leaders include J.B. Graham, John Budlong, Charles

Jones, and J. Courtney Selvy.

Graham is assistant vice president of the Missions Section of the Home Mission Board. He is author of "Associational Missions."

Budlong is an HMB missionary and author of "Missions Development for Small Churches."

Jones is certified for associational and church missions development for the HMB and author of "Church Missions Development Survey Director."

Selvy is a certified consultant in AMD/CMD for the HMB and author of "Church Missions Development Teaching Guide."

For details on registration, contact Gulfshore at Henderson Point, Pass Christian, MS 39571. For program information, contact Ray Grissett, Cooperative Missions Department, MBCB.

## Mississippi Baptist activities

June 13-15 Southern Baptist Convention; Las Vegas, Nevada

## GA camps at Garaywa filled

All GA camps at Garaywa are filled to capacity according to Betty Smith in the WMU office. The Acteens Week, July 24-29, is still open. Acteens are invited to send registration to the WMU office, Box 530, Jackson 39205. For further information, call the WMU office, 968-3800.

## Convention program to be in Braille

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (BP) — For the first time the program of the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting will be offered in Braille.

Charles Couey, director of blind ministries at Park Avenue Baptist Church in Nashville, wanted a schedule for the June 13-15 SBC annual meeting here. He arranged to receive the program by telephone modem into his VersaBraille, a storage device that can be hooked up to the church's Braille printer.

Couey and his church will provide copies of the SBC program in Braille to blind people who will attend the convention. People who want copies should contact Park Avenue Baptist Church, 44th and Park Ave., Nashville, Tenn. 37209, phone (615) 297-5336.

He hopes blind Baptists will begin attending the SBC annual meetings, noting plans to organize a Southern Baptist Conference for the Blind at the 1990 SBC in New Orleans.

## Vestal's goals are listed

In last week's Baptist Record, an article about Daniel Vestal's run for the SBC presidency said that he has been holding meetings around the SBC and has been telling people that he has three goals.

He names the first goal, then the story ends abruptly. That is the problem a newspaper staff has when it runs out of space and cuts from the bottom of the story without double checking for content.

Following are all three of Vestal's goals.

"... First to depoliticize the convention. Baptists are tired of all of this. They want doctrinal integrity, but they want all of this crass politics to stop.

"Second, I will do what I can to help unify the convention. Third, I will do what I can to help us focus on the future, to establish short-term goals, to refocus on Bold Mission Thrust.

"If I win, I will try to use whatever influence I can to work toward those goals. If I lose, I will work with the one elected to achieve those goals."

## Moyers honored

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP) — Veteran journalist and broadcaster Bill Moyers was honored with the Distinguished Wilbur Award during the late April meeting of the Religious Public Relations Council (RPRC). Moyers received the award in recognition of his lifelong contribution to the communication of religious values in the media. The Distinguished Wilbur has only been presented once before, to President Jimmy Carter.

## Enrollment up at Carey's satellites

Summer enrollment at William Carey College's two satellite campuses are up, according to school officials.

Student undergraduate registrations on June 1-12 resulted in credit hour and full-time equivalent increases of 15 percent at Carey on the Coast and 217 percent at the New Orleans campus. Headcount registrations totaled 90 and 212 respectively.

J.V. McCrory, academic vice president at Carey, said the nursing and pre-nursing enrollment results in New Orleans were exciting to him. "We are now starting to focus some of those same kinds of strategies and energies in Hattiesburg and Carey on the Coast."

Don Fowler, academic coordinator for the Gulfport campus, said he felt student increases on the Coast were almost as incredible as the turnaround in New Orleans, despite negative publicity of recent weeks. "We have recently begun a new pre-advisement program to help improve our scheduled Fall offerings and services from Carey on the Coast," he said.

Graduate registration throughout the state and undergraduate enrollment in Hattiesburg for the summer were scheduled during this week as is pre-advisement for the Fall term. For further information call 865-1505 in Gulfport and 582-5051 in Hattiesburg.

## Court hears arguments on dial-a-porn

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP) — The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in a California case which raises the question of whether the government can ban all sexually-explicit dial-up services, or whether such a law must distinguish between speech that is "obscene" and speech which is merely "indecent."

A federal law banning dial-up services which offer sexually explicit telephone messages is needed to "protect children from hearing patently offensive speech," a Justice Department attorney told the Supreme Court in late April.

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**APPLICATIONS ARE BEING** accepted for a full-time Day Care/Kindergarten Director. Send resume/salary requirement to: Trinity Baptist Church, Search Committee, 2610 Napoleon Avenue, Pearl, MS 39208.

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**YOUTH DIRECTORS** — Make reservations for your group at "All Night Skate" August 4 during Youth Night in Jackson. Lakeland Skating Center, (601) 932-5323.

**YAMAHA GIR BABY** Grand piano with padded stool to match; polished walnut finish; beautiful! Only 3 years old. Moving — must sell. Call (601) 833-5089.



# capsules

## Margolis gets BPRA scholarship

Kate Margolis, a Methodist from Edwards and editor of the campus newspaper at Mississippi College, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship by the Baptist Public Relations Association.

## Tolbert plans retirement

Wake Forest, N.C. — Malcolm Tolbert, professor of New Testament at Southeastern Seminary, has announced his retirement.

Tolbert has been a member of the faculty at Southeastern since 1979. From 1961-1976, he was professor of New Testament and Greek at New Orleans Seminary.

In addition, he has been a missionary to Brazil where he taught at Equatorial Brazil Baptist Seminary and worked with the Baptist State Convention.

Tolbert, a native of Baton Rouge, La., and his wife Nell will live in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

The Tolberts can be addressed at: 6610 Ahihi Street, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520, 601-255-5675

## N.O. names "Outstanding Students"

Recipients of the 1989 Outstanding Student Awards at New Orleans Baptist Seminary were Tommy R. Smith, of Sumter, S.C., representing the associate of divinity in pastoral ministries degree program; Michael G. Allen, of Florence, Ala., representing the master of church music degree program; Robert F. Blackburn, of Pensacola, Fla., representing the master of religious education degree program; Craig E. Forque, of Leesville, La., representing the master of divinity degree program; and Asa R. Sphar III, of Winchester, Ky., recipient of the Broadman Seminarian Award, representing the master of divinity degree program.

## Kentucky editor dies

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Jack D. Sanford, editor of Kentucky Baptists' weekly newsjournal, the Western Recorder, died in Louisville May 24 following heart failure. He had not complained of illness before his seizure.

Sanford, 63, became editor of Western Recorder July 1, 1984.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, he was educated at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, where he earned three degrees.

He served three years with the U.S. Navy Seabees during World War II. He had been a chaplain in the Kentucky Air National Guard. From 1954 to 1957, he was professor of religion at Bethel College in Hopkinsville, Ky. At the time of his death, he was a part-time professor at Boyce Bible School at Southern Seminary.

## Utah-Idaho elect Billingsley

SALT LAKE CITY (BP) — C. Clyde Billingsley, director of evangelism for the Florida Baptist Convention, has been elected executive director-treasurer of the Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention.

Billingsley, 48, will take office Sept. 1, succeeding Darwin E. Welsh, who announced his resignation as executive during the 1988 annual meeting after nearly two decades of leadership. Welsh will work with Billingsley until the 1989 annual meeting in November and then retire.

The 19-member Utah-Idaho Baptist executive board elected Billingsley without opposition during a meeting May 5.

Billingsley, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., attended Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., and is a graduate of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and Southwestern Seminary.

## Midwestern names alumni of year

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — One graduate and two former students of Midwestern Seminary have been selected as alumni of the year by the school's national alumni association.

Roger W. Hall and Doug and Evelyn Knapp will be honored at the seminary's annual alumni luncheon during the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nev. The luncheon will be held June 14 at 12:30 p.m. in the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel.

Hall has been treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Texas since 1983. Previously, he was vice president of estate planning at Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo.; vice president for business affairs at Midwestern; and director of business services for the Missouri Baptist Convention in Jefferson City.

The Knapps retired from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in April after serving for 25 years as agricultural missionaries in Tanzania.

The final 11 years of their ministry in Africa produced 58,144 baptisms.

They attended Midwestern in 1963.

## Brazil's radio Bible school marks 40th year

A church was organized in April in the Amazon jungle, where a pastor had never visited. The new believers came about as a result of the Bible School of the Air, broadcast from Rio de Janeiro through Transworld Radio, report Leon and Carolina Galgoul, missionaries of Brazil's Home Mission Board in Carolina-Maranhao.

On May 5, the Bible School of the Air celebrated its 40th anniversary. The preacher and teacher on the program, from its beginning, has been David Gomes, who is pastor of the Baptist Church of Hope in Rio.

These radio broadcasts, in Portuguese, span the globe. Other churches also have been started through this ministry, and many professions of faith are reported in letters the station receives.

Over 300,000 in 40 years have completed the Bible correspondence course offered by the Bible School of the Air.



Parks



Rush



McCoury



Bryson

## Program personnel chosen for pastoral ministries meet

D.G. McCoury, Harold Bryson, Mike Parks, and John Rush will be leaders of the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Conference, July 10-12 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

The meeting will share space at the Pass Christian facility with three other meetings: Weekday Ministries, Stewardship, and Church Missions Development.

In addition to Bible study, worship and inspiration, the conference, according to Julius Thompson, conference organizer, will offer a variety of skill development opportunities in preaching, pastoral ministries, pastoral leadership, church administration, personal and professional growth, stewardship development, office management, deacon training, recreation, and resources in church weekday early education.

There will be classes for both children and youths. Nursery care will be provided.

McCoury is on the staff of the Sunday School Board in pastoral ministries. He will lead sessions for ministerial staff on pastoral ministries and leadership.

Bryson is preaching professor at New Orleans Seminary. He will lead an in-depth Bible study and preaching conference.

Parks is minister of music at Morison Heights Church, Clinton. He will be music and worship leader.

And Rush is vice president for stewardship development at the SBC Stewardship Commission. He will lead a conference on stewardship development.

Sessions begin at 11 a.m., July 10, and conclude after lunch on July 12.

For details on registration contact Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, MS 39571.

## Juror says prayer was turning point

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP) — An emotional prayer led by retired bus driver Caswell Hartridge was a turning point for the jury that found Oliver North guilty on three charges and not guilty on three others.

Each of the jury's 12 days together began with prayer, but juror Earl Williams said the prayer offered the morning the jury sent out its verdict was a significant breaking point in the decision-making process.

Williams said determining North's intent in some of his actions was the most difficult part of the jury's job.

In a statement made at his lawyer's office after the verdict, North called the jury's verdict a "partial vindication," and said, "Throughout this, my family and I have been sustained by the support and the love and the kindness and the prayers of the American people. Without them and their love, and the grace of God, there is no way we could have endured the length of this ordeal."

North was acquitted of the most serious charges he faced in connection with the Iran-Contra affair. He was found guilty of one count of obstructing Congress, one count of destroying documents, and one count of receiving an illegal gratuity.

Respect for language is respect for yourself. It lifts you up. — Mikhail Baryshnikov

## At Gulfshore: leader training

By Robin Nichols

Training is an urgent need in most every Mississippi Church. Gulfshore Baptist Assembly hosts training conferences this summer for leadership training in Sunday School, Church Training, Church Music, church staffs, and missions.

"Only once in nine years has a pastor stated he had adequately trained leadership in his church" said one convention consultant. "Most of our churches do not have enough trained leaders." The consultant continued, "Gulfshore Conferences provide the very basic and the very best training available."

According to Keith Wilkinson, Sunday School Department director, "Gulfshore training makes a difference in the quality of leaders." Each of the five departments, Sunday School, Church Administration, Church Music, Church Training, and Cooperative Missions strive to prepare leadership training that inspires and motivates church leaders.

The Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Conference, July 10-12 provides "skill development, Bible study, inspiration, and fellowship in a retreat setting." The program targets: pastors, ministerial church staff members, secretaries, week-day education, deacons and staff family members. Program leaders include D. G. McCoury, Church Administration Department, Baptist Sunday School Board; Harold Bryson, New Orleans Seminary; Betty Davis, Glade Church, Laurel; Jeanette Flowers, First Church, Jackson; Ken Anderson, First Church, Saltville; David Morrow, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, Jackson; Jim Yates, Jr., First Church, Kosciusko; and Sybil Thompson, First Church, Long Beach.

Church Music Leadership Week, Ju-

ly 27-29, offers a large variety of classes providing church and associational music leaders improvement in skilled and leadership abilities, according to Graham Smith, director Church Music Department, MBCB. Children's music leaders will select from class offerings led by Dean Wallace, Michael Hawn, and Bill Roper. Accompanists will choose from classes led by Linda Shipley, Jennie Lou Breland and Sharon Lyon. Youth and adult leaders will be led by Neil Darnell and Jim Hawkins. Associational music leaders will be led by Darnell and Danny Jones. Classes for handbells and instrumental music will be held by Perry Robinson and John Hanbery. Additional faculty members include area music clinicians and staff members of the Church Music department. Camp pastor is James Richardson, First Church, Madison.

"Basic Training in Discipleship" is the theme for the Church Training Leadership Conference, July 13-15. Conferences are offered for all age group leaders, general officers, Bible drill leaders and youth speakers' tournament leadership. Worship leaders include: Grady Cothen, retired past president BSSB and Clint Nichols of the music faculty, NOBTS. Theme interpretation is an important element of the discipleship portion of the Church Training Conference at Gulfshore each year.

The Cooperative Missions Department inaugurates its church missions development conference, July 10-12. Church missions department directors and church missions committee chairmen are invited for an overview of organization and program "How To" experiences. Mission program resources and work with other church

programs highlights the agenda.

Featured leaders are: J. B. Graham, assistant vice-president of the mission section, Home Mission Board and author of "associational missions;" John Budlong, national missionary, mission section, HMB, and author of missions development for small churches; Charles Jones, certified trainer "AMD/CMD, HMB and author of "Church Mission Development Survey Director;" and J. Courtney Selvy, certified consultant AMD/CMD, Home Mission Board and author of "Church Missions Development Teaching Guide."

"Share Hope... Reach Ten" is the theme for the Sunday School Leadership Conferences, July 30-August 2, August 3-5, August 7-9, August 10-12, and September 15-16.

Preachers for the summer session are Kiely Young, First Church, Greenville, and Dean Register, First Church, Gulfport. Music leaders are Rick Greene, Daniel Memorial, Jackson, and Gary Anglin, First Church, Pascagoula. Conference leaders are provided for all leadership sessions, including state and national Sunday School leaders. Children and preschool teaching serve as a teaching lab for leaders to observe as a part of their training.

Keith Wilkinson, Director of the Sunday School Department, summed up the attitude of leaders conference organizers when he said, "Leader Training at Gulfshore" provides inspiration, motivation, and training to administer, teach, reach and minister affectively in their areas of responsibility." More specific information for each conference is available from the departments in the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Robin Nichols is a consultant in the Church Training Department, MBCB.





# Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



## Father patterns

What is a father? Edith Schaeffer in one of her books answered that a father is meant to be one to whom his children can come for shelter in any kind of storm. He is a person who can always be counted on to care. He is available at all times. He provides with love and imagination for the needs of his children, for their joy, as well as for their good.

My daddy was not perfect, for no man is. But he was such a good pattern as a Christian father that I know how wonderful the reality is — that God is my Father. Daddy's three brothers, Homer, Lynwood, and Wendell, were made on the same pattern.

When Lynwood was born June 12, 1909, Homer was so jealous he asked his parents to put the baby up in the loft. He remembers now that they got to be good playmates, though, and their favorite games were horseshoes and checkers. At age 3, Lynwood nearly died of colitis. When he was six, typhoid fever nearly killed him. In later years, he had several heart attacks. He died May 12, a month before his 80th birthday.

I know that he was always to his wife and sons and grandchildren a quiet haven in any storm, as Daddy always was to us. When I was three, he helped Daddy farm for a year. He and one of his girl friends would sit at night in the swing that was shadowed by a kudzu vine at the edge of the

porch. Sometimes he would take me with him to visit Annie Mae Hamby. I was fascinated one afternoon as she wet his brown hair and set it in waves with bobby pins. I remember the day in 1934 when they got married.

His jobs were in a cotton mill in the Valley and, during World War II, at a powder plant at Childersburg, Ala. When they lived at Fairfax and Kellyton, my sister, Betty, and I would visit them and their sons, Larry and Dan, in the summers.

(For years, I'd think of Larry every time I went through Atlanta, for he was an air traffic controller. Now he teaches others to be controllers. Dan was a coach, but now is superintendent of schools at Lanett, Ala.)

After the War, Lynwood built a house near Grandpa Washburn, a few miles from Dudleyville, Ala., and opened Washburn's Superette, a country crossroads grocery. For a long time, he continued to work at a textile mill while Annie Mae kept the store, with his part-time help.

At County Line Church, they don't rotate or retire deacons, and Lynwood was still an active one. To me, one of life's verities was that Lynwood would always be in his place beside Annie Mae, about the third row from the front, because like Grandma and Grandpa and me, he could not hear well. Often he would lead the offertory prayer, and with another deacon, pass the collection plates. His church and community knew he was available at any time, as one who could be counted

on to care.

Once last year when I visited him he showed me his new fishpond in the woods and picked a sackful of turnip greens for me while he told a funny story. Like his parents and his brothers, he had a dry sense of humor, a readiness to laugh at himself, a slow wide grin, and a deep rib-tickling chuckle.

The day he died I was at Gulfshore, but I had seen him the previous weekend at the hospital in LaGrange, Ga. Through pain and weariness, his brown eyes sparkled as he, a proud grandfather, talked about a great-grandchild.

Last week, one night I listened on television to the memorial services for Claude Pepper in the U.S. Capitol. (It was the same day I had been to the funeral of T. J. Harper, husband of Vera, W. D.'s sister.) The newspaper said Pepper "was born poor in 1900 in rural Alabama." That was at Dudleyville, less than a mile from County Line Church and not far from where Lynwood and Daddy and their family grew up.

In the service for Pepper, Jim Wright said, "one life can make a difference, — and what a difference his made."

In a quiet, even-tempered, unassuming way, Lynwood's life, too, made a difference. Like many I have known across Mississippi, he grew and blossomed where God planted him, according to the pattern God had planned for him.

Thursday, June 8, 1989

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

## RTVC trustees reject sale of ACTS network

By Toby Druin

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission voted 13 to 5 to reject a \$15 million offer for the ACTS network May 18 and pulled the network off the market.

They will trust God and Southern Baptists to make the system a financial success, they said in a special meeting to hear a proposal from a Dallas-Fort Worth group to buy the network.

Chairman Harold Brundige of Martin, Tenn., whose vote on the five-member negotiating committee brought the proposal to sell the network before the commission, said after the meeting he felt it would "take a miracle, if ACTS survives."

"But God is still in the miracle business," he added.

The special meeting at Dallas-Fort Worth Airport was called by Brundige to hear a proposal from DFW Uplink Inc., a group headed by Ralph Tacker of Dallas.

The Tacker group was one of three which made offers when another deal with San Antonio, Texas-based Friends of ACTS Inc., fell through in March. No follow-through was made on the other two offers, however, Brundige said.

The Tacker group, which included Patsy Ayres of Austin and San Antonio, Texas; Bob Cargill of Fort Worth; Dick Davis of Arlington, Lawrence Eugene Thomas of Arlington and Bill Ratliff of Birm-

ingham, made a package offer to buy the network that included \$12.5 million in cash or irrevocable release from the RTVC's \$8.4 million indebtedness on the network plus cash; four hours of programming daily for 30 years; 10 percent of the original issue of capital stock to be purchased after five years by the network for \$2.5 million; and a representative from the commission on the company's board of directors.

Tacker is a businessman and member of Cliff Temple Church, Dallas. He became a Southern Baptist Mission Service Corps volunteer in the early 1980s, working with the Radio and Television Commission and formed DFW Uplink to provide ACTS with access to satellite transmission. The company to be formed if the RTVC accepted the offer would go public and would issue about \$25 million in stock, he said. The name of ACTS would be changed to ACTS Interfaith Network, he said, and it would be multi-denominational.

More would have to be spent on ACTS to meet the challenge, Tacker said.

The network has a growing number of potential viewers — now estimated at 9.5 million homes — but declining numbers who watch the network because of low quality programming, he said.

In the initial discussion, two RTVC trustees, Russell Lawson of Oklahoma City and Leroy Stevens of Phoenix, urged sale of the network. The Tacker group offer was fair and Southern Baptists had not demonstrated they "are willing or able to support" ACTS, Lawson said.

The debt service on the \$8.4 million balance of the loan on the network and cost of the lease on the transponder to carry the network signal are \$250,000 monthly — "41 percent of our budget," Stevens said.

He added that no Southern Baptist leaders have stepped forward with a "positive, up-front" plea to keep the network, that the Southern Baptist Executive Committee had told RTVC trustees no "deep pockets" are available to finance ACTS and that he is not convinced Southern Baptists ever have been behind the network.

Several questions were raised by others about the public nature of the proposed new company, and fears were expressed about the potential loss of control.

August Peters of Hillsdale, Mich., expressed concern about who would own the network after Tacker and the others pass from the scene and what would happen to Southern Baptist television efforts after the 30-year agreement concluded.

Laverne Butler of Pineville, Ky., said the public aspect of the new company was contrary to what had been discussed before.

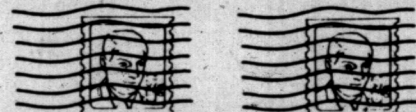
Mike Huckabee, pastor of Beech Street Baptist Church in Texarkana, Ark., opposed the sale on behalf of ACTS affiliates, the ACTS groups in local communities. Huckabee is southwest regional representative for ACTS affiliates.

The discussion about the proposed sale during the past 14 months had resulted in diminished support because of the uncertain future, Huckabee said. But he added he was against the sale because weekly he sees people making decisions for Christ whose initial contact with the gospel came through the network.

Toby Druin is associate editor of the Texas Baptist newspaper.



## Letters to the editor



Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld. The withholding of names will be at the discretion of the editor.

influence from tax-supported public television.

Harold H. Hendrick  
St. Louis, MO

### Thanks for eyeglasses

Editor:

We would like to extend our thanks to the Baptist Record for publishing the request for eyeglasses. These glasses will be read by qualified opticians and prescribed by doctors participating in medical teams in third world countries.

Our thanks is also extended to those who have already responded to the request. However, eyeglasses are still desperately needed. They may be sent to:

Global Outreach  
P. O. Box 1

Tupelo, MS 38802  
or if shipped by UPS to:  
Global Outreach  
509 S. Thomas St.  
Tupelo, MS 38801

Again, thank you to the Baptist Record and those readers who so generously responded to the request. May the Lord bless as you continue to serve Him.

Sammy Simpson,  
executive director  
Global Outreach

### Church role of women

Editor:

The Apostle Paul writes in I Timothy 3:1, "If a MAN desire the office of bishop, he desireth a good work." Also, he states in verse 2: "A bishop then must be blameless, the HUSBAND of one WIFE."

I do not believe this eliminates the role of a WOMAN. I recall from my high school classes in history and Latin that 2,000 years ago the place of a woman was "in the house." She was not very well educated nor spoke in public forums, etc. A woman stayed in the background with her children and kitchen chores.

Today, the role of a woman has changed greatly! A woman is as well educated and as well qualified as a man for church or secular leadership.

If Paul's letter to young Timothy were re-written today I feel that the implied question would be: "If a man or a woman desire the office of bishop . . . ." And Paul's answer probably would be: "A bishop then must be blameless, the spouse of one mate . . . ."

Let us not become so strict in our interpretation of the Bible that we "shut out" what is reasonable, common sense, and good judgment as in the illustration above.

Today, great women world leaders are and have been Margaret Thatcher of England, Golda Meir of Israel, and Indira Gandhi of India. In our church leadership today, let us accept the role of a woman the same as the role of a man.

I believe as children of God we are

all equal to God for our witness and "to preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:16).

To God be the glory.  
Robert S. Leigh  
Jackson

### Ministers' biographies

Editor:

Mississippi Baptists have access to an outstanding resource book that I believe many will wish to purchase at a special price at our Baptist Book Store in Jackson.

Jack W. Gunn, Ph.D. in History and currently executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Ministers' Current Biographies, a listing of several hundred Mississippi preachers.

We believe that many of our church staffers and lay members will find this publication, released in 1986, of great value. It is now available for \$5.95 per copy plus 35 cents tax, for a total of \$6.30. For an additional \$1.50 postage and handling the bookstore will mail it for a total of \$7.80.

Orders should be placed with the Baptist Book Store, Westland Plaza, 956 Ellis Avenue, Jackson, MS 39209, telephone 601-354-3417. We believe that this significant publication will be of interest to many of your readers.

Edward McMillan, President  
Mississippi Baptist Historical  
Commission

### Moyers' tapes

Editor:

Recently I viewed on Public Television Bill Moyers' opinions on the Southern Baptist Convention. I was fascinated!

So 23 days before the SBC presidential election, Moyers and national public television aired their slants regarding the SBC. Amid his criticisms of our denominational politics, Moyers then participates in denominational politics! Moyers paints a very positive image of one SBC presidential candidate and then attempts to discredit a spokesman favorable to another candidate. He uses the power of his national TV platform to belittle us and to influence SBC Convention voting — 23 days before the voting. And since he does it nationally on public television, Moyers' mission is financed by our tax dollars!

SBC election practices should be improved, but Bill Moyers may not be the best role model for that improvement.

SBC messengers in Las Vegas will vote their consciences — hopefully without submitting to pressure from Bill Moyers, or without the improper



# CHILDREN'S PAGE



## Pen Pal Club

"Hi!!"

My name is Bethany Allred. I'm 13 and in the 7th grade. I go to the Sunflower Baptist Church. I promise to answer all letters. I'll also try to send a picture of myself. I love to write, make new friends, act crazy, joke around, and talk about boys. So if you write to this address I write back, promise: Rt. 1, Box 50, Sunflower, MS 38778.

Bethany

My name is Kristen Jernigan and I am 7 years old and will be in the second grade next year. I go to Highland Baptist Church, Laurel, and I enjoy going to GAs. I love tumbling, cheerleading, swimming, skating and riding my bike. My address is Rt. 9, Box 362, Laurel, Miss. 39440. My mother is one of my GA teachers.

Kristen Jernigan

My name is Erin Dry. My address is Rt. 7, Box 678. I am 7 years old and go to Highland Baptist Church, Laurel, Miss. and to GAs. I love to swim. Please write me.

Erin Dry

My name is Jennifer Pridgen. I will be in the 4th grade next year. I go to GAs and to Highland Baptist Church. My address is Rt. 7, Box 184, Laurel, Miss. 39440. I like sewing and singing.

Jennifer Pridgen

My name is Kim Bigler. I am 7 years old. I like to bowl and I like to swim. I go to GAs. My church is Highland Baptist Church, Laurel. My address is Rt. 3, Box 70B, Laurel, I will be in the 2nd grade soon. My birthday is Feb. 1.

Kim Bigler

My name is Angela Pridgen. I go to GAs at Highland Baptist Church, Laurel, Miss. I am 7. I like to fish and skate and fly kites. I also like to ride bikes and swim. Write me: Rt. 7, Box 184, Laurel, Miss. 39440.

My name is Jennifer Miller. I am 9 years old and I live at Rt. 3, Box 303, Laurel, Miss. and my phone number is 649-4029 and I like swimming and skating and writing. My birthday is August 5, 1980. I hope to hear from you soon. My church is Highland Baptist, Laurel.

Jennifer Miller

My name is Liza Wall. I am 7 and I like swimming and skating and reading. My birthday is June 6, 1982. I go to Highland Baptist. I will be in the 2nd grade soon. Write me at Rt. 14, Box 823A, Laurel, Miss. 39440. Tell me how old you are and what grade you are in.

Liza Wall

My name is Brandie Leigh Napier. I enjoy skating and swimming. I will be in the 4th grade next year and I am 9 years old. I go to Mason School. I go to Highland Baptist Church and I am in GAs. I would like for you to be my pen pal and write me back. My address is 834 West 26th Street, Laurel, Miss. 39440. My phone is 649-4757.

Brandie Napier

My name is Carrie Sewell, my daddy is the pastor of Highland Baptist Church, Laurel, Miss. I am 10 years old. My birthday is Jan. 22, 1979. I will be in the 4th grade next year. My address is Village Park Drive, Laurel, Miss. My phone number is 425-4419. I enjoy swimming and skating. I have one brother whose name is Chad. Please be my pen pal.

Carrie Sewell

My name is Jennifer Stevens and I will be in the 2nd grade next year. I like to go to school and swim. Please write me at Rt. 3, Box 70B2, Laurel, Miss. 39440. I go to GAs and to church at Highland Baptist, Laurel.

Jennifer Stevens

My name is Amy Lynn King. I am 7 years old, I like to swim and go to GAs. I go to Highland Baptist, Laurel. I live at 1721 Sherwood Dr., Laurel, Miss. 39440. I like to skate. I was out of school May 25 — so I will be in the 2nd grade soon. My birthday is Jan. 9.

Amy King

My name is Rachel Shaw. I have a sister and brother named Rebekah and T. W. My address is Rt. 3, Box 201, Laurel, Miss. I would like for you to be my pen pal, please! My birthday is May 22, 1980. I go to Highland Baptist Church, Laurel, Miss. I will be 9 on my birthday. I will be in the 4th grade next year.

Rachel Shaw



## Frogs can only see food or danger

By Lucille W. Bailey

In the 25th verse of the first chapter of Genesis, we find these words: "And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creatures after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and it was so."

Now when we consider all that creepeth, we must include the frog. When we stop to think that the Lord made 1,700 different kinds of frogs, I believe the Lord really liked the frog! I would like to explain to you why I think this is true. Frogs are sometimes found to be a foot long. Others are as small as a copper cent. Tree frogs have little suckers on the ends of their feet and this provides them with a safe way to climb trees. God provided the frog with large hind legs which make it easy for the frog to escape an enemy.

Now the reason that God made the front legs of a frog shorter than the hind legs is because they will break the fall when the frog jumps and also allows the frog to prop up when sitting. The frog has two extra bones to strengthen its backbone and help it to jump.

We use our tongue to talk, while the frog uses his tongue to get food. God made the tongue of the frog sticky in order that anything that the tongue touches will stick to the tongue and provide the frog with a meal. God fixed the nostrils to close when the frog swims. God taught the frog to lay her eggs deep in the water and cover them with a gel for protection.

To me, the most unusual thing that God gave the frog was their eyes. First of all, the frog has two extra muscles; on land, the frog is nearsighted, while in water the frog's eyes become farsighted. The reason the eyes bulge is to help a frog swallow food. The eyes of the frog do not focus the same way. While one eye looks to the east the other one can look to the west. Now the most unusual thing about the eyes of the frog is that their ability to see is like that of a blackboard wiped clean, and the only images the frog can see are things that directly concern the frog, such as a natural enemy or the food he needs for survival. Now this simply means that a frog is never bothered by unimportant things, but only by food or danger.

Now it seems to me there is a lesson here for us to learn. We let our lives become cluttered up with things that are not of God, Psalm 119:37 says, "Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity." Solomon reminds us in Proverbs 4:21 that "the words of the Lord should not depart from our eyes."

God made the frog where he could only see food and danger with his eyes. He gave us the ability to choose between good and bad. The next time you see a frog, or hear one croak, you remember the things that have cluttered up your eyesight, and see if there is something you need to do to get rid of some of the things that God would not like for you to see.

Mrs. Bailey lives at State Line.

When you consider that there are a thousand ways to express even the simplest idea, it is no wonder writers are under a great strain. — E. B. White

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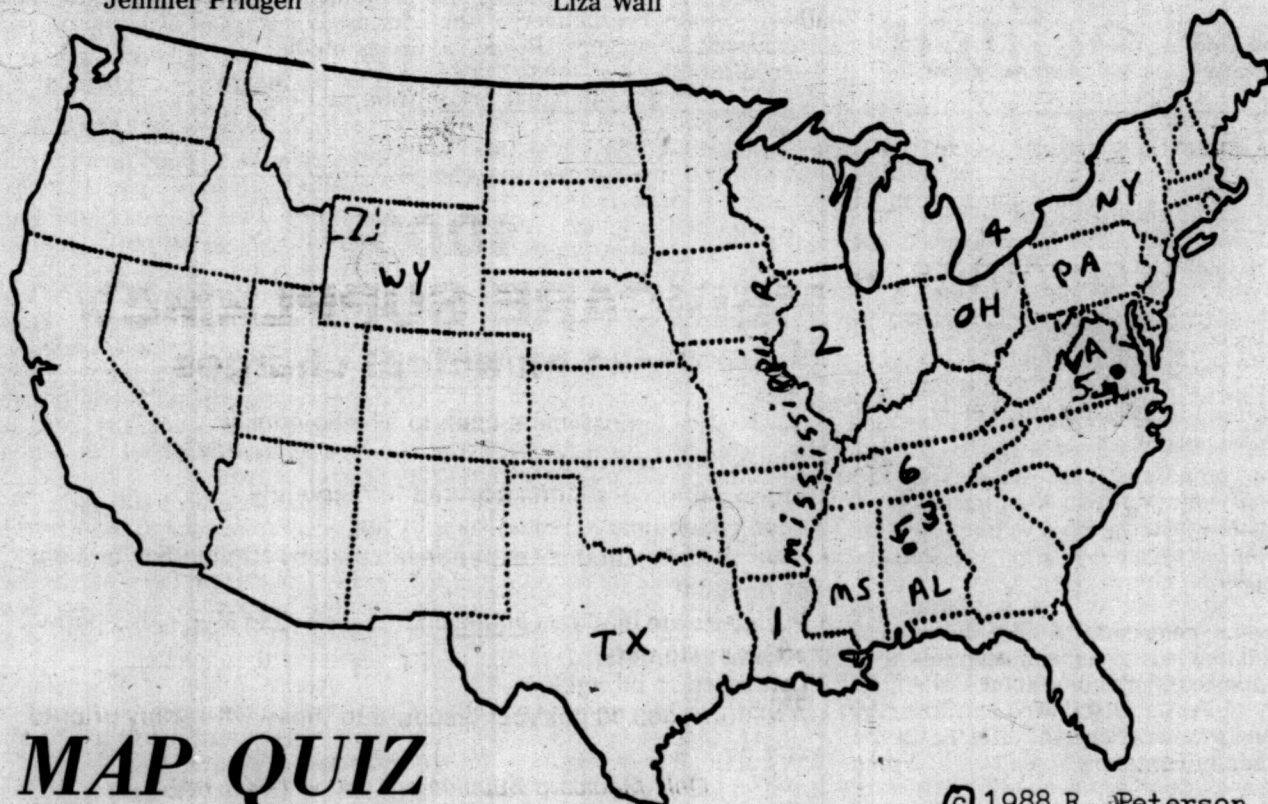
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## MAP QUIZ

© 1988 R. Peterson

By Ralph Peterson

Can you name the numbered areas? Fill in the first letters of the answers by each number.

1. This Gulf Coast state was first settled by the French. The Mississippi River is its eastern border.
2. This northern state is bordered on the west by the Mississippi River. Its largest city is Chicago.
3. This is the largest city in Alabama. It is known for its steel mills.
4. This Great Lake provides a harbor for Cleveland, Ohio; Toledo, Ohio; Erie, Pennsylvania, and Buffalo, New York.
5. This city is the capital of Virginia.
6. Much of the electricity for the South is produced in this state. The state's capital is Nashville.
7. This national park, the main part of which is in Wyoming, is the oldest in the country. It is famous for its many geysers, especially Old Faithful.

Now read the letters in the blanks downward. They should spell "LIBERTY."

Answers: 1. Louisiana 2. Illinois 3. Birmingham 4. Erie 5. Richmond 6. Tennessee 7. Yellowstone



# Just for the Record



**First Church, Quitman**, recently held a Mission Ministry Recognition Service. Sixty-five Mission Friends, GAs, and RAs were recognized for completion of steps in the different

organizations. Guiding these children were 23 adults under the leadership of Marcus Peagler, minister of education, and Rex Yancey, pastor.

The **St. James Ringers**, under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. G. Felix Thompson, Jr., will present a concert of handbell music in the sanctuary of Alta Woods Church, Jackson, June 27, at 7 p.m.

The 52 ringers and their chaperones are from St. James United Methodist Church in Little Rock, Ark. and are on their way to the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers Area VI Festival in New Orleans, La.

**Woodville Heights Church, Jackson**, will celebrate its 30th anniversary, June 25. Sunday School will be at 9:15 a.m. and worship service at 10:30 a.m. A covered dish lunch will be served at noon. Hueston Adkins is pastor.

**Parkhill Church, Jackson**, will observe its 33rd anniversary, June 11. After the 11 a.m. worship service, there will be an old-fashioned dinner in the fellowship hall. Following dinner a time of singing and fellowship will be held. Barry Swartz is pastor.

The annual **Baccalaureate Service** for high school graduates was held at Parkway Church, Natchez, May 28. Parkway's graduating seniors of the city's high schools were recognized and presented with a gift from the church during the morning worship service. Prior to the service, the graduates were honored at a breakfast.

**Vacation Bible School** for children, ages 2-12, will be held at Tangipahoa Church, Thompson Road, Summit, June 12-16, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Registration will be held on June 10 at 3 p.m.

The 144 voice combined children's choirs presented "Kids Praise '89" at Parkway Church, Natchez, May 21, during the evening worship service. The musical, under the direction of Frank Sidorowicz, was presented in conjunction with the annual choir awards presentation. Thirty-eight awards were presented for perfect attendance and 71 for high attendance, 80 percent and above. Seventy children were involved with drama and a variety of solos. Psalty, the singing songbook, was portrayed by Buddy Casey, minister of music.

Leo Humphrey of New Orleans, president of "Good News in Action," will lead an evangelistic blitz at First Church, Brandon, June 10. Participants will meet at 5:30 at the church for preparation and dinner, then go to a local apartment complex for witnessing. Humphrey will also lead in the 8:30 and 11 a.m., and 7 p.m. services on June 11. Gene Henderson is pastor.

**H.O.P.E.** (Helping Others, Providing Empathy), a support group for people grieving the death of a loved one, will meet June 15, at 6 p.m., at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson. The group meets the third Thursday of each month. For more information call 968-3090.

## Homecomings

**Laurel Hill, Philadelphia:** June 11; services at 10:30 a.m.; Carlton Jones, Carthage, guest speaker, Lester M. Jeffers, pastor.

**Union, Brookhaven:** June 11; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship service, 11 a.m.; dinner on the grounds following worship service with afternoon singing.

**New Providence (Copiah):** June 11; David Lawrence, former pastor, morning message; Sunday School, 9:45; worship, 11 a.m.; followed by dinner on the grounds; special offering for upkeep of cemetery.

## Revival dates

**Beacon, Hattiesburg:** June 18-23; Sunday services, Sunday School, 10 a.m., worship, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Tommy Jones, evangelist; Roger Blackwell, music; Freddy Odom, pastor.

**Shivers, Pinola:** June 11-16; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., lunch served at church; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Dennis Allen, pastor, Harrisville, evangelist; J. A. McCain, pastor, in charge of music.

Alvin R. Vaughn is available for interim, supply, and revivals. He retired from his last pastorate, Leaf River Church, Smith County, in 1980 for medical reasons. Other churches he was pastor of were Homewood Church, Homewood; First Church, Sharon, Jones County; Bethel Church, Pearl River County; and churches in Kentucky and



Vaughn

Louisiana. Vaughn is a graduate of Mississippi College and attended Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He can be contacted at 716 Line Drive, Forest, MS 39074 or phone 469-4880.

William G. Nettles, assistant professor of physics at Mississippi College, will be a teaching fellow this summer at the Research Science Institute sponsored by the non-profit Center for Excellence in Education, McLean, Va.



Mr. and Mrs. Magee

**Philadelphia Church, Hwy 550 west of Brookhaven**, is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its pastor and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Magee, on July 2. Eugene Roberts, former director of missions for Copiah-Lincoln Association will deliver the morning message. There will be dinner on the grounds followed by singing featuring the Cross Road Boys and members of the church.

## Baptists in Broadcasting give awards

The third annual Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting meeting held on April 15, presented awards to a number of Mississippi churches for outstanding work in radio and television. The entries from churches were judged by professionals in the field of radio and television.

The awards were presented at a luncheon by Farrell Blankenship, director, Department of Broadcast Services, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and Frank Pollard, pastor, First Church, Jackson.

The award, name of the church winning the award, and title of the winning program follows: Best Television Program - Missions/Evangelism, First Church, Hattiesburg, "The Sword"; Best Television Program - Church Musicals, First, Jackson, "Freedom Ring."

Best Television Program - Human Interest, ACTS of Laurel, Inc., "Football '88 - The Playoffs"; Best Television Spot, First, Brandon, "Football"; Creative Use Of Television, First, Brandon, "A Brandon First Baptist Christmas Night."

## Mississippian graduates from Boyce

**LOUISVILLE, KY.** — One student from Mississippi graduated from Boyce Bible School during the Louisville, Ky. school's 28th commencement May 26.

Vernon Gordon of Jackson received a diploma in Christian ministry.

Roy L. Honeycutt, president of Southern Seminary, delivered the commencement address. Boyce, a division of Southern Seminary was founded in 1974 to provide ministerial training for persons without college degrees. David Q. Byrd is dean.

Thursday, June 8, 1989

## Elderly care to be examined in Memphis

**MEMPHIS** — How can the ever-increasing number of people who are caring for elderly family members in their homes, themselves receive comfort and relief from stress?

This question will be addressed in a free, public workshop on Friday, June 16 from 8:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Baptist Memorial Hospital Medical Center auditorium.

The program is designed to provide caregivers in the home with information that will help them:

- maintain their own self esteem and health,
- balance home concerns and nursing care responsibilities,
- become aware of coping methods,
- meet others with similar responsibilities,
- become knowledgeable of community resources to turn to.

For more information, from Memphis call 522-7002; from outside Memphis call 1-800-541-4323.

## Moore joins Commission

**NASHVILLE (BP)** — Texas journalist Louis Moore will become associate director for publications/products/media relations at the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission effective June 1, said CLC Executive Director Richard Land.

Moore, a part-time consultant for media relations and publications at the CLC for the past eight months, will supervise the agency's publications and products, participate in program planning, and conduct seminars and discussions on the Christian and the mass media.

He also will teach journalism part-time at Belmont College, a Baptist school in Nashville, home of the commission's offices.

## Names in the news

**Eddie Gandy**, a native of Mississippi and now pastor of Westmoreland Baptist Church, Huntington, West Va., received his doctor of ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville, Florida on May 12. Graduation ceremonies were held at the First Baptist Church, Jacksonville. Gandy received his bachelor of science degree from Carey College and master of divinity from New Orleans Seminary.

**James Burnside**, professor and head of the Department of Mathematics and Computing Science at Mississippi College, has been voted "Professor of the Year" for 1989 at the college. He has been a member of the Mississippi College faculty since 1966.

Burnside, a native of Carthage, was named recipient of the honor at the recent 163rd commencement program of the institution. He was one of only five professors nominated for the honor.

**James L. Harrell**, part time church building consultant, has moved to contract status with the MBCB, according to the MBCB executive committee. He will average 24 hours per week in his work. Other part time consultants are employed on a contract basis in the Church Music and Church Training Departments.

## Lay renewal brings many decisions

**Springfield Church, at Morton**, held a lay renewal weekend in early March with 50 guest team members. After a number of decisions were recorded, the Sunday evening service, according to participants, took three hours for testimonies of God's working in their lives. Leaders of the conference were Mahlon Thomas from the Gulf Coast, Timmy Cooper, local coordinator, and Alan E. Balliet, Springfield's pastor.

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Six students with Mississippi ties received doctoral degrees from New Orleans Seminary during commencement exercises May 20. They are (left to right) Douglas M. (Matt) Buckles of Meadville, (pastor of Lowrey Memorial, Blue Mountain), doctor of ministry degree; Donald Glen Payne of Blue Springs, (pastor, Forest Lake, Tuscaloosa, Ala.) doctor of ministry; R. David Raddin of Greenville, (pastor, Juniper Grove, Poplarville),

doctor of ministry degree; Landrum P. Leavell II, seminary president; Randall L. Von Kanel of Pascagoula, (pastor, First Church, Hattiesburg), doctor of theology degree; Edgar Lee Wright of Meridian, (pastor, New Sight, Brookhaven), doctor of theology degree; and Wesley R. Yates of Moss Point, doctor of ministry degree, associate pastor for administration and counseling, First Church, Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

## New Orleans seminary grants degrees

The following Mississippians received degrees during graduation exercises May 20 at New Orleans Seminary, New Orleans, La. In addition, the six pictured above received doctoral degrees.

Philip S. Smith from Decatur, pastor of First Church, Lacombe, La., received the master of divinity degree.

Other Mississippi graduates included Tommy W. Miller of Pontotoc, pastor at Merigold Church, Merigold, associate of divinity with special emphasis in pastoral ministry; David T. Taylor from Orlando, Fla. (a graduate of Mississippi College), master of church music degree; Tim Tolleson from Carthage, master of divinity with special emphasis in religious education; Gary Scott Rayburn, Gulfport (and McComb), master of divinity; Harold R. Mosley, Cleveland, pastor of Pontchartrain Church, New Orleans, master of divinity; Wayne David Moran, Gulfport, master of divinity; Gregory

Joseph McBride from Gulfport (and Sandy Hook), master of divinity; R. B. Keyes from Clinton, master of divinity;

Kenneth Charles Guy, Tylertown, pastor of Fellowship Church, Mathiston, master of religious education; Johnnie R. (Butch) Dear, Hazlehurst (and Osyka), minister of music, youth, and education at Grace Church, Thomasville, Ga., master of religious education; Jonathan M. Daniels, Cleveland, minister of education and youth at Southside Church, Jackson, master of divinity with special emphasis in religious education; Dwight Cummings, Ocean Springs, minister of youth at New Orleans Chinese Baptist Church, Metairie, La., master of divinity; Gerald H. Walker, Gulfport (and Columbus), pastor of Lizana Church, Gulfport, master of divinity; Will H. McRaney Jr., Natchez, pastor at Jackson Avenue Church, Pascagoula, master of divinity;

John Terry Barnes from Sumrall

(and Hattiesburg), pastor of Highland Church, Bogalusa, La., master of divinity; Leroy J. Brewer, Starkville, pastor at Parkview Church, Leland, master of divinity; Jason Philip Bird, Meridian, minister of music and education at Immanuel Church, Hattiesburg, master of religious education degree; Beth Watkins Cape from Moselle, minister of music and youth at Evan's Creek Church, Pearl River, La., master of religious education; William Gary Creech, Bude (and Natchez), pastor of Fellowship Church, Summit, master of divinity; Garry Blain Zook from East Prairie, Mo., and Woodville, Miss., associate of divinity with special emphasis in pastoral ministry; Robert M. Payne, Lillian, Ala., minister of music and education at Calvary Church, Waynesboro, master of religious education; John Hutto from Prentiss, (and Metairie, La.) associate of divinity degree with special emphasis in pastoral ministry.

## McCalep speaks in state conferences

George McCalep, pastor of Greenforest Church, Decatur, Ga., spoke recently at conferences in Jackson and Picayune.

Pastor of a fast growing black Southern Baptist church, McCalep cited Sunday School and stewardship emphases as growth tools which work. The church has grown from 15 to 1,300 in nine-and-a-half years.

Mississippi has seven predominantly black Southern Baptist churches located in Biloxi, Picayune, Jackson, and Greenville. Richard Brogan,

black church consultant, MBCB, said there are seven additional places where black work is being considered and where cultivating activities are taking shape.

## Revival results

Winston County Crusade: May 7-12; Walter K. Ayers, Garland, Texas, evangelist; Byron Cutrer, Orlando, Fla., music evangelist; 58 professions of faith.

## Senior Adult Corner

Douglas E. Benedict, director of missions, Lamar Association, spoke on "In the Company of Others" on Senior Adult Day, May 7, at Calvary Church, Hattiesburg.

Mrs. Ovelia Traylor received special recognition as a member of Calvary for 60 years. Mrs. Traylor directs the homebound ministry. Ronnie Jones, pastor, commended her for her service through the years.

Mrs. Irene Davis, president of the senior adult organization "Live Oaks" was presented the Standard of Excellence award for outstanding achievement made by the club under her leadership. Eight members of the Live Oaks who are 80 years of age and over were honored: Mrs. Annie Mae Bailey, Mrs. Beulah McKinney, Mrs.

Elma Morris, Mrs. Eva Neill, Mrs. Norma Roseberry, Mrs. Annie Mae Steelman, Mrs. Clara Thomley, and A. F. Thornton. Special music was provided by Coy Cole and the Calvary Quartette. A lunch was prepared by the younger members.

Woodville Heights Church, Jackson, honored its senior adults with special recognition by Hueston Adkins, pastor, May 7, during the morning service.

In the afternoon the youth of the church entertained the senior adults with a banquet. As the senior adults entered the banquet room they were greeted by one of the youth, given a lei, and escorted to a table.

The senior adults led in the evening worship service by singing, presenting a skit, and devotional.

## State students graduate from Southern Seminary

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Seven Mississippi students were awarded degrees from Southern Seminary during the school's 163rd commencement May 26.

The Mississippi Baptists were among approximately 245 persons to receive degrees from the schools of theology, church music, Christian education, and social work.

Robert Ernest Naylor, president emeritus of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, delivered the commencement address.

The Mississippi graduates included the following:

Master of theology — Richard C. Prassel Jr. of Raymond; master of arts — George Van Laney of Greenacres, Fla.; master of divinity — Randy D. Bostick of Corinth; Shirley Ann Gross of Tupelo; Martha Anne Harrington of Houston; C. Holzer-Williams of Perkinston; Judson William Hurt of Clinton.

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# ACTS

CT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5:30	The Joy of Music! Diana Bush Christopher Cross	Sergeant Preston of the Yukon The Class Kid	Adventures of the Lane Ranger 20 Min	Great Churches of America (I)	Correspondence of America (II)	Great Churches of America (II)	The Bible and Life
6:30	This is The Life Westbrook Hospital	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Devery and Galt Color Me a Romance
7:30	Profiles Changed Lives	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Sunshine Factory	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Sunshine Factory	Word of Life Sunshine Factory	Campus Review Sunshine Factory	Insight Sunshine Factory	Sunshine Factory Sergeant Preston of the Yukon
8:30	ACTS Methodist Hour	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Lane Ranger Cartoon Adventures of the Lane Ranger
9:30	Come Alive Nelson Price	One in The Spirit Sergeant Preston of the Yukon	Catch the Spirit Richard Jackson	Judy's Kitchen Come Alive Nelson Price	30 Good Minutes Correspondence	ACTS Presbyterian Hour	Class Kid Popsom Theatre
10:30	Catch the Spirit Day of Discovery	The Class Kid Missions 30	Super Handyman	Our World	Vegetable Soup David Wade Show	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Profiles	
11:30	ACTS Presbyterian Hour	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Hollywood Review	Jenny Houston Outdoors Outdoor Magazine
12:30	The Baptist Hour	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Encore Theatre	U.C. Video News Encore Theatre	Word of Life Encore Theatre	Campus Review Encore Theatre		The Super Handyman Plant Groom
1:30	Sunday Selection						The Bible and Life The Good News
2:30	Missions 30	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	Devery and Galt Color Me a Romance
3:30	Lane Ranger Fading Action Regions	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Sunshine Factory Sergeant Preston of the Yukon
4:30	The Joy of Music! Diana Bush Christopher Cross	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Slippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lasso	Lane Ranger Cartoon Adventures of the Lane Ranger
5:30	First United Methodist Church, Houston Dr. D. James Kennedy	Adventures of the Lane Ranger 20 Min	Great Churches of America (I)	Correspondence of America (II)	Great Churches of America (II)	Sergeant Preston of the Yukon	Popsom Theatre
6:30	ACTS Methodist Hour	Super Handyman Life Today	Our World Life Today	David Wade Show Life Today	Profiles Life Today	Plant Groom Life Today	Country Crossroads
7:30	Zola Levitt	Search	Word of Life	Campus Review	Created to Be One	Christian Lifestyle Magazine	Sing Out America
8:30	The Baptist Hour Evening Worship	The Joy of Music! Diana Bush Christopher Cross	Catch the Spirit 30 Good Minutes	First United Methodist Church, Houston	Invitation to Life	Missions 30	The Bible and Life The Good News
9:30	Richard Jackson	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	The Joy of Music! Diana Bush Christopher Cross
10:30	Day of Discovery	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	The Baptist Hour	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Sabbath School General Lightnings
11:30	Jack Van Inge Pascagoula	This is The Life Sunday Selection	Adventures of the Lane Ranger	Great Churches of America (I)	This is The Life Correspondence	Great Churches of America (II)	Class Kid Popsom Theatre
12:30	Missions 30	Super Handyman	Our World	David Wade Show	Profiles	Plant Groom	
1:30	Insight	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Hollywood Review
2:30	ACTS Methodist Hour	Search	Word of Life	Campus Review	Created to Be One	Christian Lifestyle Magazine COPE	
3:30	This is The Life	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	
4:30	Sunday Selection						Sing Out America

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# Paul brings his testimony before Agrippa

By Bert Breland  
Acts 25:13-26:32

This lesson begins with the arrival of Agrippa and Bernice to welcome Festus to his new position as governor. This Agrippa is actually Agrippa II, the son of Agrippa I and the great-grandson of Herod the Great. Bernice was his sister, although many historians believe that they were living in incest. Agrippa had a unique position in that he was closely aligned with the Roman government. Yet, he was interested in the Jewish people. It was these circumstances that prompted Festus to allow Agrippa to hear Paul's case. Festus was hoping that Agrippa could give him some insight into this matter so that he would know what to charge Paul with before he sent him to Caesar.

Paul did not have to appear before Agrippa if he did not want to, because of his appeal to



Breland

## BIBLE BOOK

Caesar. However, Paul saw this as a great opportunity to share the gospel. Paul began his defense by declaring his loyalty to Judaism. The charges that he was blasphemous were absolutely ludicrous. Paul then gave an account of his conversion on the road to Damascus which he concluded could have only come about by divine intervention. It is important to note here that, as Paul shared the gospel and sought to be an effective witness, he used his own personal testimony as a means of sharing the gospel. From Paul's day to ours, there simply isn't anything more effective in convincing someone of the truth of the gospel, than to tell them what Jesus has done for you.

Paul concluded his defense (or should we say sermon?) by telling Agrippa that the only thing he was guilty of was fulfilling this vision that he had received from God. His mission was to declare light to both the Jews and the Gentiles. Paul must have believed that his inclusion of

the Gentiles would have a positive effect upon King Agrippa even though he was a Jew, because of his close alliance with the Romans and his political interest in peace within the kingdom. Paul also declared that what he preached was nothing more than what the prophets had already foretold would happen when the Christ came.

Agrippa, being accustomed to Jewish tradition, was taking this all in stride, but Festus thought that Paul had lost his mind. He began to intervene, almost in an apologetic fashion, but Paul would not allow attention to be diverted from his appeal to Agrippa. He insisted that Agrippa understood these things and didn't think him to be mad.

Agrippa's response to Paul is one that needs to be looked at carefully. It is translated in the King James, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian," thus giving the indication that Agrippa was close to becoming a Christian. According to New Testament scholar, Frank Stagg, this translation is indefensible. Stagg prefers the translation from the Revised Standard Version which states, "In a short time you

think to make me a Christian!" indicating that rather than being nearly saved, Agrippa was surprised that Paul would think he could so easily convert him.

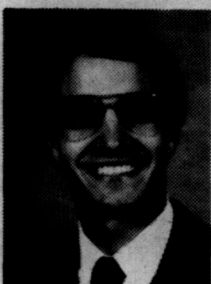
This would be consistent with the following verse in which Paul says, "whether short or long, I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am, except for these chains" (RSV). I think that Paul's remark, "except for these chains," was an attempt at a little humor which would have served to ease some of the tension at this hearing. One only has to stop for a moment and imagine what Paul must have looked like standing before a king and the upper echelon of society in chains and saying, "I hope that you can all become just like me." Whether they laughed or not, the king and the governor agreed that Paul was not a criminal and if he hadn't appealed to Caesar he could certainly be set free. Luke made his point that none of the authorities, from the Roman commander to King Agrippa, could find any guilt in Paul.

Breland is pastor, North Greenwood Church, Greenwood.

# Be open to help overcome inadequacies

By Greg Martin  
Judges 6:11-18, 21

One reason there is always a need for church workers is so few people feel qualified to accept Christian responsibility. Many pastors have experienced frustration in recruiting lay leaders for various tasks. More than a handful of VBS directors know the problems of soliciting people to work for one hot week in the summer. Every Sunday School director has experienced the difficulties of recruiting teachers, workers, and record keepers. The excuse



Martin

... "I am not capable." Perhaps it is true that some are not capable of accepting a particular task. However, many never try their hand at any Christian responsibility. Why? They feel inadequate.

People feel inadequate for a number of reasons. Some feel inadequate because of fear of failure. Others lack confidence in the Lord to make up for any deficiencies. The main reason people feel inadequate is — poor self-image. They do not see themselves as God's

## LIFE AND WORK

special and unique person, gifted by a wonderful Creator.

Gideon is an Old Testament character who wrestled with feelings of inadequacies. Through yielding to the Lord he was able to overcome what held him back. From his life we learn that when God calls us to serve him, he offers help in overcoming inadequacies we feel hinder us.

Gideon and the Israelites had been under the Midianite oppression for seven years. The people had retreated to living in caves. Their crops and livestock had been destroyed. Verse 11 places Gideon in a winepress, threshing what little wheat he was able to salvage. He did not go to the open threshing floor, for fear the Midianites would rob him of his wheat and life. Fear is what characterizes Gideon as he is introduced to us in this sixth chapter.

Fear is one tool the devil uses masterfully. He knows that when we are fearful, we will not attempt to serve God in his power. Satan's use of threatening circumstances often causes us to

be intimidated and to feel inadequate. Fear is cast out of our lives when faith becomes the dominant controlling force.

When the angel of the Lord appeared unto Gideon, he assured the judge that God's presence would be with him (verse 12). That assurance is ours today as well. Hebrews 13:5 reminds us that the Lord will never leave us or forsake us. When we are aware of his presence, there is no need to fear and feel inadequate. As he promised to be with Gideon and help him defeat the Midianites, so will he do the same for us (verse 16).

The angel of the Lord saw great potential in Gideon. He referred to him as a "mighty man of valour" even though his family was least in the tribe of Manasseh and he was the youngest of his father's children (verses 12, 15). Gideon, like many Bible characters, offered excuses for not wanting to serve God. The Lord accepted none of Gideon's excuses because he saw the potential in Gideon to deliver his oppressed people.

One of Gideon's objections to God's using him was his low ranking in the family. Another excuse was his lack of observing God work in his generation, (verse 13). He was skeptical concerning God's presence and promise because

the Midianites were oppressing the people and God had not intervened miraculously to save them like he did their forefathers in the exodus. Unpleasant circumstances in our day cause many to question God's care and wisdom.

From verse 14 we learn that when God calls people to serve him, he enables them to accomplish what he expects them to do. The Lord told Gideon that he would have the strength to equal the task of delivering the people.

At first, Gideon had reservations. He wanted a sign to confirm that the Word he heard was from the Lord (verses 17-18). He brought an offering to the Lord. It was consumed as an evidence that God was the one sending him (verse 21).

From this we see that often God's people need reassurance for the task before them. The Lord is ultimately the one to make available the reassurance that every individual needs. It could be that he chooses to use our encouraging words, helpful suggestions, and divine insights. Our task is to be open to helping others overcome inadequacies. This is accomplished when we first allowed the Lord to conquer them in our lives.

Martin is pastor, Commission Road, Long Beach.

# God is able! God gives victory

By Gary G. Berry  
Joshua 6:1-4, 15-21

When the people of God follow him faithfully, He enables them to overcome obstacles to his purpose and to take part in his victory. That is a truth which should be experienced increasingly by believers today. Too many interpret obstacles as instructions to give up. When one is walking in the will and purpose of God, however, obstacles are only opportunities for increasing our reliance upon



Berry

God. Israel, fresh from the miraculous crossing of the Jordan, quickly faced another hurdle. Jericho, an impenetrable stronghold of the enemy, lay in the pathway of Israel's taking possession of the land of promise. The people of God faced a seemingly hopeless situation. They were inexperienced in the kind of warfare necessary to conquer this city. Jericho was closed to all penetration or communication from the outside (verse 1).

This chapter emphasizes the intervention of God in giving this city into Israel's hand. When Jericho falls, it will be as a result of the hand of God and the faithful obedience of his people.

## UNIFORM

The people believed what God had promised and obeyed God's directions as given through Joshua, their leader. Sounds simple, does it not? Even familiar? God said, "I can if you will." They followed his instructions to the letter, and God did what he promised.

There is a clear need to understand that the fall of Jericho was not accomplished by magical means (vv. 15-16). God had given the city to Israel, but he required their involvement and their obedience in delivering the gift.

The judgment of God which was to fall on Jericho was to be most severe (verse 17f). The city and its inhabitants were sentenced to complete destruction with the exception of Rahab, who was to be delivered. Rahab had given assistance to the spies from Israel who had earlier surveyed the land with a view to conquering it. What she had done to assist the spies was an act of faith, according to Hebrews 11:31. As always, it is impossible to please God without faith, but even a "Canaanite" who exercises faith in God experiences his blessing. Rahab and "her house" will share in the rescue from destruction.

God's warning concerning the spoils of victory should remind all that disobeying God car-

ries severe consequences (vv. 18-19). Why would anyone choose to disobey God and experience the consequences when he could obey God and experience his blessing?

A study of this event should reinforce the understanding that God is able to use usual means to give victory to his people (vv. 12-21). When God calls his people to any task, He takes personal responsibility for dealing with the

obstacles which stand in the way. The obstacles you face are not a surprise to God. Determine whether you are walking with him within his purpose for your life. Then he assured he will enable you to overcome the obstacles. God is able! The destruction of Jericho is just one more example of that. Never forget: God is able.

Berry is pastor, Temple, Hattiesburg.

## Pope says progress of ecumenism threatened by ordination of women

LONDON, England (EP) — A recently-publicized letter from Pope John Paul II to Robert Runcie, the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, expressed the pontiff's reservations about the Anglican bishops' recent decision to allow Anglican bodies around the world to ordain women as bishops.

The letter, made public for the first time at an April 26-May 2 meeting of Anglican leaders in Cyprus, made clear the Pope's feelings that progress toward ecumenism between the two churches has been threatened by the ordination of women. An Anglican-Roman Catholic commission that has been given the task of addressing the recognition of ministries in the two communions is now faced with a "new and perplexing situation," wrote the Pope.

The Roman Catholic Church has firmly and consistently refused women ordination throughout its history, and has in recent years, reiterated that stance several times in response to requests that women be allowed in the priesthood. The Anglican Church has allowed the ordination of women as priests for nearly a decade.



# Rolling Fork reaches 100 Leaving a place better than you found it

First Church, Rolling Fork, will celebrate its Centennial at Homecoming on June 18, with 11 a.m. services and old-fashioned "dinner on the ground."

In 1874 the State Mission Board sent Lewis Ball to Rolling Fork where he lived during 1874 and 1875 with services held in a union church used by all denominations. At the close of 1875 Ball moved his family to Blue Mountain for educational advantages, but came back for meetings, notably, one 30 days long in June 1879 and one in 1880. These revivals kept alive the interest in the Baptist cause until finally Ball came back and on March 3, 1889, with ten members founded the organization that continues today.

Within months delegates were sent to the Deer Creek Association, a deacon was ordained, and Ball was called as pastor, preaching one Sunday a month for \$25. In March 1890 the first collection for general missions was recorded — amount \$6.25, and a contribution of \$22.50 for ministerial education was given in 1892.

Ball continued preaching in 1890 with services held in the new Methodist church. No meeting was held the first Sunday in April "on account of the overflow." Floodwaters threatened services several times.

The Baptist Ladies Auxiliary Society was organized in 1892 "for benevolent purposes" with eleven charter members and nine men as honorary members, with the third Monday to be devoted to missions.

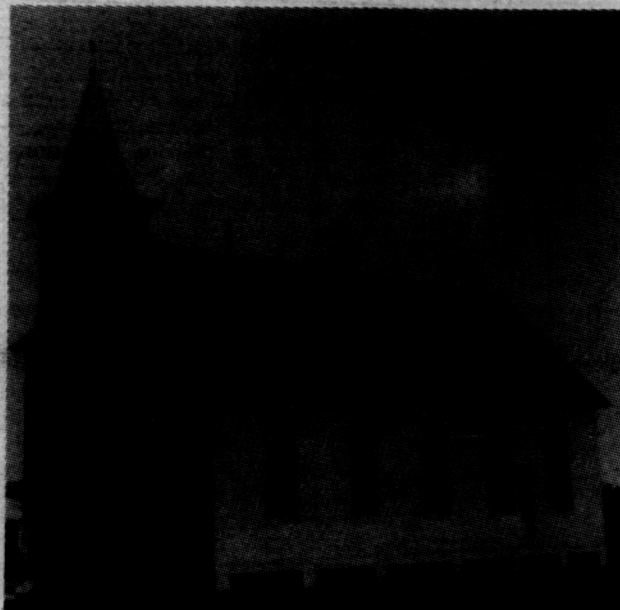
The Sunday School was begun May 14, 1905, with the help of Miss Olive Alexander who was the daughter of Mrs. Amy O. Alexander, one of the original members when the church was constituted.

No church services were held in August, September and October of 1905 on account of yellow fever and quarantine regulations.

In 1917 the church voted to call a pastor for half-time service. The Baptist Record was ordered sent to each church member in 1928, and in 1943 the church went from part-time to a full-time church.

A thumbnail history of the building of the church which was constituted on March 3, 1889 would include: June

The first payment on Rolling Fork Baptist Church built in 1904 was made by the Baptist Ladies Auxiliary, Society, forerunner of the Woman's Missionary Union. To help pay off the debt, a bazaar was held at which the Ladies Home Journal had a booth and printed several hundred postcards with the picture of the new church on them. Only one of these original picture postcards is known to exist and a copy is shown at right.



19, 1904, first service held in the first church; July 7, 1929, first service held in the second church which was erected on the site of the first church; July 27, 1956, remodeling of the front exterior of the second church; January 21, 1957, first-recorded meeting in the educational building; December 21, 1975, dedication of the new sanctuary; and June 18, 1989, Centennial Celebration.

Mrs. Ellen W. Barnard was one of the ten original members of the church founded in 1889, and today, 100 years later, her granddaughter, Mrs. Ladye Carpenter Freitag, is an active member of the church.

God has led former members of the church into full-time Christian service after leaving this church, including Hal Lee Jr., former missionary to France, who is now associate to the area director of missions in Europe.

Young people who answered God's call into full-time Christian service while still members of this church include Joel Richardson and Gregg Bennett.

The Centennial Celebration officially began March 5, 1989, at the Sunday morning service when the original constitution was read and the candle on the birthday cake was lighted by Reese E. Kyzar who has been pastor

of the church for 30 years.

Resident members honored for the longest continuous active membership as determined by church records were Mrs. Ethel Hurst who joined prior to 1925 and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Bertha McCaa, who became a member on December 15, 1935; and James R. (Jimmie Dick) Carter and Laurance W. Carter, brothers, both of whom became members on November 20, 1938. Carsie A. Bozeman, who was ordained deacon by the church in 1947, was honored for the longest service as deacon of any active church member.

Monthly centennial highlights and weekly features will continue through the year, including congregational songs selected as centennial hymns, the use of logos submitted by church members, and interesting items from early church history. Mrs. James R. (Leta Wells) Carter is Centennial chairman and committee members are Jim Ella Wells Aden, Carsie A. Bozeman, Rita Walker Heigle, Ollie Grice Kyzar, Bobbye McGivney Presley, Georgia Frances Sharbrough, Nancy Barnard Virden, and Bessie Mae Wells. Reese E. Kyzar is pastor of the church and Billy Rayburn is minister of music and youth.

By Billy G. Johnson

I Chronicles 4:40

My grandparents on the Johnson side were tenant farmers by choice. They had owned a farm at one time but sold it so they would be free to "farm on halves" as they put it. They moved frequently . . . I think my grandmother must have had preacher blood in her . . . I heard her say one time that God had called her to preach. Nonetheless, they would live on one farm for a few years, really make a lot of improvements, and then move on. One of the things I remember is that they always left the place better than they found it.



Johnson

The Hamites were people like this. When the family of Simeon went looking for pasture land for their flocks they came upon this place where the Hamites had dwelt, and, as The Amplified Bible puts it, they "left it a better place for those who came after them." I can think of nothing more commendable for a people or an individual than to leave such a legacy. This should be the desire of each one of us: to make the world a better place for those who come after us. Such a goal would be especially appropriate for those who are graduating from high school or college this year.

I would suggest three ways we can leave the world a better place for those who follow after us. We can do it by putting more into life than we take out of life. Second, we can leave the world a better place by thinking of tomorrow as well as today. Jesus did not forbid thinking about tomorrow, making plans for it, planning for the future. He did forbid our allowing tomorrow to become our consuming passion. And, third, we can make the world a better place for those who come after us by doing our best to make the world what it should be today. This takes work and effort, but the reward will be that it will be a better place tomorrow.

Johnson is pastor, Dixie Church, Hattiesburg.

## Staff changes

Joe Crout has accepted the pastorate of Kilmichael Church, Kilmichael. He is leaving New Sardis Church, Smith Association, where he has been pastor for four years.



Crout

Crout was graduated from University of Southern Mississippi, receiving a B.S. degree, and from New Orleans Seminary, earning a master of divinity degree. He assumed the pastorate at Kilmichael on May 30.

Robert E. Jones has announced his retirement from the pastorate of Washington Church, Adams Association, effective May 31. After July 1, he will be available for pulpit supply, interim pastorate, Bible conferences, revivals, and Bible studies. His new address is Route 7, Box 149, Columbia, MS 39429 and telephone number is (601) 736-3996.



Jones

Heucks Retreat Church, Brookhaven, Lincoln Association, has called Greg E. Potts as pastor. He goes from Providence Church in Meadville.



Potts

Potts is a graduate of Mississippi College and has a master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary. He writes book reviews for The Baptist Record. His first Sunday at Heucks Retreat was June 4.

Pleasant Hill Church, Clarke County, has called Mark Giles, as minister of music and youth.

Gary Dover has been called as minister of music and youth at East Philadelphia Church, Philadelphia, effective May 21. He recently graduated from Belmont College in Nashville, Tenn.



Dover

His wife, the former Angela Richardson, is from Meridian.

Jeff Jeffery is the new pastor of Poplar Springs Church, Calhoun County.

East Pleasant Grove Church, Clarke County, has called Keith Creel as minister of music and youth. Creel is son of Albert Creel, pastor of East Pleasant Grove.

## SCRAPBOOK

### Is it impossible?

Lord, make me whole again  
Only you can gather all the shattered pieces  
and restore me, make me whole again.

Lord, here is a large piece — its edges jagged  
and sharp.  
Lord, only you know the deep hurt that came  
from this broken piece of me.

Lord, there are so many; I look around in vain.  
There in the corner is a small sliver, but Lord,  
it destroyed wherever it touched.

Tiny, jagged, cutting pieces all around my feet,  
I pick up this one and that, and Lord, it  
hurts again.

It is impossible, dear Lord, to bind me up  
and stop the tears of wasted years and  
shattered dreams?

Continually, I sought an answer to my quest,  
and finally in the quiet midnight hour amidst  
my prayers and tears, you spoke clearly to me.

No, it is not impossible, my child,  
Just let me have your burdens.

Lord, you met me once again at the foot  
of the old rugged cross and you  
bound me up and made me whole again.

You called your wandering child back  
to your loving arms and there are no  
more broken pieces.  
Thank you, Lord!

—Barbara Mixon  
Vicksburg

Baptist Record

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NASHVILLE TN 37203

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Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205